V ciplinary body ordered

his car would not last the race,

the Ferrari pit is said to have

radiator was leaking and his

Ferrari had lost 2.3sec and

denly on his tail. When the

engine was overheating.

told Schumacher that one water

On the two previous laps the

Villeneuve's Williams was sud-

German went into his final bend

stewards, astonishingly

called it "a racing incident" and took

In Switzerland, Ferrari fan clubs

Moments before the accident,

writes Alan Henry.

Schumacher brought to book

Paul Hayward in Jerez

SPINNING Ferrari wheel in a gravel trap was the endurng symbol of Michael Schumacher's fallibility. The 1997 Formula One championship was handed to Jacques Villeneuve when the German driver tried to barge his rival's Williams-Renault off the track on the 48th lap but succeeded only in ruining his own chance and diminishing his formidable reputa-

So Schumacher is human after all. Formula One's most acclaimed pilot came into last Sunday's European Grand Prix needing only to finish in front of Villeneuve to secure his third championship but lost it with a spectacular misjudgment two-thirds of the way through this dramatic 69-lap car chase.

The race was won by Mika Hakkinen from his McLaren team-male David Coulthard, but Villeneuve's third place was good enough for him to complete the IndyCar-Formula One double in only his second season with the Williams team. He is only the fourth driver to do it after Mario Andretti, Emerson Fittipaldi and Nigel Mansell.

Villeneuve was greeted mechanics wearing fluorescent yelnisfortune that so much attention

low wigs modelled on his own peroxide crop. His was a drive of immense courage and concentration that will remove many of the doubts about his sometimes volatile temperament. It was the Canadian's was focused on Schumacher's rough-house tactics. Cryptic crossword by Araucaria | Pown

2 Former representative of

Plerce and draw blood? (4)

4 14's Englishmen at home to

Agree to love — but change of

Resillence of a master taking in

recalling where 14's 4 went later

16 Fish (part of 12 from part of 10)

(7) 17 Shut off what sounds unhealthy

Latin books, I hesitate to say,

harsh 'n' pathetic book

at first (3,4)

(3,7,2,3,5,5,4)

Very good biscuit (?)

a French film (10)

will tranquillise (7)

23 See 5 down

Last week's solution

Barker? Hardly: holding a little

money I thrust back (7)

18 The fool is likely to be in the

mother country to right (10)

21 Where flowers are 11 or iii? (4)

24 Extremes on river: part of 12's

25 Shunning of drunken sot for

the Old Testament (7)

time for Northerners (7)

27 In river and islands there's little

26 Make a mess of a few words in

20 One who plots to put the

soup (6)

part of 2 (5)

ethnophobia (9)

Meditation, in spite of having

little time (7)

country (5)

holy city (6)

to make us alert (7)

5 Tremendous loss (7)

made wine (5,4)

9 Senior actor provides home-

10 Home help goes back to the

11 No use for 14's 1 acrosses (4)

pointless going back to the king

12 Diver to give her a cuddle —

14 Saint's part in Jerusalem, the

15 He gives formel acknowledgment

22 Novelist of parliaments (5)

ANOREXY OFWRATH
N F A A M O P E
DUMAS THEGRAPES
M I T E L M A I
ENCLOISTER FLAT
N E F T C L A
ESTATEAGENT
A T D H E N D E
STOREPERSON
B R N O

Course (2,5)

had been preparing to rev up and drive to the company headquarters n Maranello within 60 seconds of their idol taking the chequered flag. They were to join nearly 40,000 supporters and 20 television crews who 1 I put a greenback in the fountain had gathered in the small Italian town to proclaim a first Ferrari drivers' championship since Judy university would spend nothing Scheckter's in 1979. The mayor had applied to have the town's name amended to "Maranello Made in Red" but the Tifosi will have had to Australian in menace (5,3,2,1,4) 5, 6, 23 14's work "Stiff Lodger", paint it black instead.

me out.

ing so late."

The conventional wisdom on the season was that Schumacher was the faster driver in the cockpit of the slower car. His skill and from will were supposedly overcoming the technical superiority of the Williams FW19. How ironic, then, that Schumacher, the embodiment of Ferrari's lavishly funded ambition, should wreck the team's chances of ending an 18-year wait with a failed attempt to end the struggle by

Schumacher's error, given his apparent decision to remove Villeneuve at the Dry Sack corner, was in not being Machiavellian He was in a comfortable lead braking into the bend but was probably surprised to see Villeneuve's nose tip poking through on his inside. The camera evidence shows a clear rightward jerk by Schumacher to the extent that his left arm was twisted over his right. The two cars collided but Villeneuve's chugged on. The most revered and fawned-over car-driver leneuve for a couple of seconds. combination came to rest in the

gravel with the rear wheel spinning mpotently amid a puff of dust. "Ferrari is not a team, it's an emotion," the firm's president Luca Di

/ OTOR racing's supreme dishe knew that, if the Willerst past, it would be the eads influence on the race adjus Michael Schumacher to account for his driving at Jercz as Formula bly of his title hopes. One sources auggested he knew

The condition of the Perm engine would have showing team's computer screenad could be available as eviden when Schumacher appears. fore an extraordinary media; the FIA World Motor Spon Council in Paris on November

At the very least Schumate could face a multi-million by fine and a suspended ban; a worst he may be barred from: first two races next year.

"It shows what his antics are." said last year's champion Damon extravagance who would take it. Hill. Villeneuve said drily: "Either prancing stallion back to the h. he had his eyes shut or his hands For much of the season it seems must have slipped on the steering be working. But another collwheel. When I took him on the counter with reality will have the curve I knew I had only a 50 per place in Maranello's Piaza R cent chance because there was a Liberta as the lashings of freelz chance Michael would try to take brusco were diverted into drowning of sorrows.

The TV audience in Italy viso pected to edge towards there: no action. Schumacher said: 24 million who watched Italy lo-"Jacques braked so late that he Brazil on penalties in the Ewould have gone off if I hadn't World Cup final. The roads i turned into him. Neither of us Maranello had been closed by the and the windows of the tor. would have made the corner brak-16,000 residents decked out in a and yellow flowers. There is: record of Williams's home tom-Wantage in Oxfordshire - empi: with similar fervour.

It is the second time in four year that Schumacher has been involve. in a decisive collision in the season final journey. Three years ago t Adelaide, Hill needed at least to points to overtake the German b. was taken out when his adversars Benetton bounced off a wall sel knocked his Williams off the track "It was Adelaide revisited," 🖼 Frank Williams last Sunday as his team tried to suppress their platsure at seeing Schumacher in sat

HE only group happier by the Williams team, who clinched a record ninth on structors' championship, were the Impresarios and money men of for mula One. Strictly speaking the would have preferred a Ferrari to tory to take to the banks as the fortion issue rumbles on, but dramad this magnitude is an equal; saleable commodity. As Villeneur said, "It was a very physical race,

with plenty of tactical nuances. neuve with a roarlog start but wis attacked right up to the denou ment by the Williams partnerships Villeneuve and Heinz-Harald Frentzen, Schumacher received in such support from Eddie Irvine but was helped when Norberto Fontana's Sauber, powered by a Ferari engine, pluckily held up W

30-minute hearing. He was refused bail on the The outcome left both Villener and Schumacher on new ground rounds that he might abscond. Villeneuve as Formula One cham-Mr Tomlinson's solicitor, John pion and Schumacher in the dos Vadham — director of the civil house. The plan had been for him ! rights group Liberty — said after Montezemolo is fond of saying. Last Sunday that emotion was despair. Schumacher was the final gilt-edged return to Maranello Made in Maran return to Maranello Made in Red as the hearing that his client had a grievence against MI6 which he had never been able to put forard. I call on the Attorney General to throw this prosecuTheGuardian Weekly

The Westiglian Drot of Therein. Iraq defies UN with bans and threats

Spy charged who tried to tell all in book

Vol 157, No 19

THE first British secret service agent to be charged with ecrets offences since the Soviet spy George Blake, 36 years ago, appeared in court this week, writes Richard Norton-Taylor

Richard Tomlinson, aged 34, was charged with planning to the United Nations," said Bill publish a book about his experi-Richardson, the US ambassador at ences in British intelligence. the UN. "This is an irresponsible In a case with remarkable

Mr Tomlinson is also the first

person to be charged under the

At Bow Street magistrates court in London on Monday, he

was remanded in custody for a

week pending further Special

Branch inquiries and the con-

John Morris, which is needed if

Mr Tomlinson, who has dual British and New Zealand nation-

ality, was allegedly planning to

leave the country. If he were to

have done so, there would have

been little MI6 could have done

to stop the book, as the failure to

prevent the publication in Aus-

memoirs of the former MI5 offi-

cer Peter Wright, demonstrated.

Mr Tomlinson has served in

Bosnia and Moscow and was in-

volved in investigating attempts by a Middle East power to acquire

components destined for a sus-

pected chemical weapons plant.

He was sacked in 1995 at the end of his three-year probation period. Malcolm Rificind, then

oreign Secretary, signed a

lagging order preventing him rom taking his case to an

M: Tomlinson told MI6 last

year that his book was stored in

computers to decode and

release the book on the Internet

unless they receive a signal from

e once pur week " he said.

Reporting restrictions were

lifted when he appeared in court

this week. The Cambridge grad-

uate with a first-class degree in

aeronautical engineering re-mained silent throughout the

tion out," he said.

coded files on two remote

computers. "I have progra

ndustrial tribunal.

tralla in 1986 of Spycatcher,

sent of the Attorney General,

a prosecution is to go ahead.

1989 Official Secrets Act.

escalation which we view with grave choes of the Spycatcher concern." episode, which seriously embar-The chief UN inspector, Richard rassed the Thatcher govern-Butler, said on Monday that the ment, he is accused of planning next surveillance flight, scheduled to publish his book in Australia for Thursday, would go ahead de--where the Government would spite the Iraqi warning. have difficulty in suppressing it.

The UN secretary-general, Kofi Annau, responded to the latest developments by sending a three-man mission to Baghdad to try to persuade the Iraqi leader to back down.

Martin Kettle in Washington, Ian Black and Michael White

This is a direct military threat to

Britain said it would support the use of force against Iraq but made clear in the face of objections from Russia and France that all diplomatic avenues - including the threat of new sanctions -- would be explored first.

The White House rejected the call for dialogue, however, after Baglidad carried out its threat and blocked American members of a UN arms inspection team from entering a weapons site. "We're not interested in a dialogue," sald spokesman Mike McCurry. "We're interested in compliance."

Baghdad newspapers reiterated that the 10 American weapons inspectors must leave the country by Wednesday night.
But Mr Butler said later that in-

spections by UN teams would proceed on Tuesday - with the Americans taking part.

"We will go back to work in the normal way in Iraq tomorrow," he said. "We will keep on doing it and we will do it knowing the [UN Secu-rity] Council completely supports hat approach. He was speaking after the Secu- community," he said.

rity Council endorsed Mr Annan's decision to send the envoys.

net of "the need for dialogue to put things in order and on the right the invasion of Kuwait in 1990. Mr McCurry said that the job of

Mr Annan's three-man team, due in Baghdad on Wednesday, was not to negotiate a compromise. The dialogue should consist of spelling out

British and American diplomats said they hoped the Iraqi leader could be given a ladder to climb down, but there was no indication of early agreement on new punitive measures if he did not.

Asked if the US was ruling out unilateral military action to enforce compliance by Iraq, Mr McCurry. said: "I'm not ruling anything in or

In Abu Dhabi, Iraq's ambassador

France is leading efforts to ensure that any retaliatory action against Iraq is taken through the UN and not by the US unilaterally.

In London, Downing Street sig-nalled its support for Washington after officials in Tony Blair's office held direct talks with their counterparts in the presidential National Security Council in Washington.

Cambodia's new killing fields

Convicted nanny seeks new trial

Jiang fails to conquer

Australia, land of loneliness

12

25

Life under the volcano

Austria A830
Belgium BF80
Denmark DK16
Finland FM 10
Finnes FF 13
Germany DM 4
Greece DR 450
Italy L 3,500 Natherlands G 5 Norwey NK 16 Portuget E300 Saudi Arable SR 6.50 DM 4 Spein P 300 DR 450 Sweden SK 19 L 3,600 Switzerland SF 3.80

HE confrontation between Iraq and the United Nations escalated on Monday after Saddam Hussein threatened to shoot down United States spy planes but offered a "dialogue" over his action against UN weapons inspectors.



ragis take to the streets of Baghdad in support of President Saddam's anti-US stance

The Iraqi news agency INA said President Saddam had told his cabitrack". Iraq wanted "a clear and complete picture" of when the UN would lift sanctions imposed after

the ways in which he will comply with the will of the internationa

to the Arab League said Baghdad was prepared for all possibilities. "When we took this decision we were expecting, as in the past, that America would take hostile positions, including the use of military

Building bridges to the future - with sova

Tim Radford

CIENTISTS in the United States Say they have found a way to make tanks, tractors, cars and even bridges out of soya beans.

called Acres (Affordable Composites from Renewable Sources) has filed a patent for a process that med a patent for a process that could end with cheaper, lighter and greener materials. They will replace the existing composites — plates, planks or beams of lightweight but costly petroleum resins, reinforced with glass fibres — to make material or ediff as extel but lighter.

ial as stiff as steel but lighter. The first industrial partner is the US tractor firm Deere and Co, which predicts a \$50 million market for farm equipment made out of soys. | as panels for hay balers. Just as | made from corn.

fungicides and shampoos. Soy is A University of Delaware team used as a milk substitute, as cat food and as a cosmetic.

ship hulls to aircraft parts.

Soya is one of the world's great | builders stiffen concrete with steel crops: the US alone grows more than 60 million tons a year. Soy products get into mayonnaise and and then stiffened them further medicines, anti-corrosion varnishes, with fibres of glass.

Soya protein is being tested in Illinols as an oestrogen substitute and North Carolina scientists think it could contain a cancer prophylactic. Soya oil costs half as much as the polyester, epoxy and vinyl ester resins used in modern composite materials to make everything from

But this is the first time beans have been promoted as potential box girders for bridges or shown off

rods, materials scientists toughened the soya oils by adding chemicals

A sample of the new soy composite went on show in Illinois last week; a 2.5 metre by 1m glass-reinforced, soy-based prototype baler part weighs 11kg - a quarter of the weight of its metal equivalent. Richard Wool, a chemical engineer, who directs the Acres group, says that one day hay or straw might be used to reinforce the resin.

Soya fabric-makers could face competition from the farm next door another US group has discovered new stuff for water resistant, biodegradable containers. It is

6

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Particularly fierce opposition has come from the Global Climate Coalition, a group of big oil companies. car-makers and electric utilities. The problem has been compounded by an acrimonious split between his economic advisers, who fear that reducing greenhouse gas emissions will damage United States industry, and his environmental advisers, who have been pushing for tough action, which they claim could stimulate economic innovation and efficiency.

The president, although a believer in the reality of global warmng, has been characteristically reluctant to take measures that might offend any domestic groups. Americans are still unwilling to reduce their consumption for the sake of a problem that many perceive as remote and irrelevant to their daily lives.

The reality is that, as demonstrated by its refusal to sign the land mine treaty, the US has no qualms about ignoring international consen sus for the sake of its perceived national interest. (Dr) Paul de Sa,

Harvard University. Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA

THE report on the response to global warming misses one important point: many studies have shown that a moderate reduction in carbon dioxide emissions, between 1 and 2 per cent per year, could be

Household heating and lighting bills, for instance, could be reduced without much effort. Huge savings can be made by using sensible public transport systems to reduce congestion. Where cars are necessary, Greenpeace has shown that it is possible to reduce fuel consumption by 50 per cent without compromising performance, safety, capacity or comfort. The development costs were minuscule compared with the money that major car manufacturers devote to refining the public image of their fuel-guzzling products.

Given the positive economic impact, there is no reason why European policies should be made contingent on the dubious workings of Washington's lobbies. The longer action is delayed the greater the risk that gradual changes, which are economically neutral or beneficial, will be insufficient to prevent disastrous changes in the climate.

Delay comes only from the lack of political will to shift a hugely conservative industrial establishment away from a system that is serving them well. The oil industry has built a vast empire and the emperor is desperately trying to hide his naked incompetence in the face of climate change.
(Dr) Martin Juckes,

Munich, Germany

CINCE the start of the West's Sawareness of ecological imbalances such as global warming, there has been a close attention on how we are destroying the planet (The planet is facing its hottest problem yet, October 26).

Maybe Man's detachment from

The Guardian

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The state of the s

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the way we treat our planet is one of | shed from paid employment each the reasons why politicians will probably pick up the fiddle in Kyoto later this year, rather than tackle the issue at hand.

It would be more effective focus on the immediate interests of politicians, corporations and those who have the power to change things rather than on problems that do not affect them during their terms of office, or in the next fiscal year. Research on how global warming could hinder their profits in the long term would probably be more productive than trying to overpromote the way the planet is being

The planet will probably outlive the human race whatever we do to it. However, if we continue to ignore the prevalent signs of ecological disaster, then we have only ourselves to blame for our own mass suicide. Kam-Wing Pang. University of Ningxia,

Yinchuan, China

Man-made with the hand of God

T WAS interesting to read of the current exhibition of the Treasures of Mount Athos at Salonica (Republic of men, October 26). However, it is distracting to have this presented in the trappings of strident feminism.

Great works of art are produced under conditions of congruous levels of inspiration. It is impossible to discuss the matter in neutral terms, occause this Orthodox religious art s not executed for exhibition as an object of secular inquiry. It is blessed to be a channel of communication between the worshipper and the heavenly presence portrayed.

These works were produced or located in the world's largest male monastic colony. There are female monasteries at which the presence of men is limited. These limitations are in place for the better flourishng of the spiritual life. After all, it is rom a healthy religious life that uch masterpieces derive.

If women "want more", then they must search out the conditions i which that longing may be satisfied. It will not prove fruitful to waste energy spolling someone cise's pitch; better rather to see how to find or establish onc. Virginia Hutchinson Abbotsford, Victoria, Australia

S NOTHING sacred? Helena Smith's one-sided feminist distribe against "men-only monasteries" on Mount Athos ignores the fact that men are not agitating for access to "female-only convents". Single-sex spiritual retreats have worked well for over a thousand years. Helena Smith, get thee to a nunnery! Victoria, BC, Canada

Intellectual rigor mortis

DR GOODCHILD plts the commercial barbarism of Western societies today against our culture of critical thinking, represented by postmodern writers such as Derrida (October 19), I would say that they are both manifestations of the same haos, one economic and one of

As the greed of the rich and the privileged causes workers to be Montreuil, France

year like the leaves in autumn, the sort of person (Dr Goodchild excepted) who teaches at a university s increasingly likely to be there because of her/his hard and competitive spirit, not for any real love of learning. Ditto students. Not to put

oo fine a point on it, universities are becoming staffed by quick-witted morons with good memories but little understanding of love of the traditional humanities. Their courses, as a result, have no substance but they conceal this by the use of a jargon of such complexity that no one can follow them and they can say to those puzzled

students (or colleagues) who complain, that they lack "intellectual rigor" (mortis?). The French philosophers in question function by providing the verbal ammunition in this, arms salesmen in the conceptual as some of their countrymen are, alas, in the military. (Dr) Peter Gilet.

Universitas Kristen Satya Wacana. Salatiga, Indonesia

THERE are literally hundreds of books critical of current trends a French thought. The furore — if there is one - is presumably because the publication of a recent book critical of contemporary French philosophy is written by two scientists (Is modern French philosophy just a load of pseudo-scientific claptrap?, October (2).

The popularity of this book in the Erdenet, Mongolia inglish press is disturbingly similar to the hostility to German thought that emerged in England during and after the first world war. At that time the influence of Hegel on English thought was pre-eminent. He was one of the most systematic and rigorous thinkers in the history of philosophy. But because of the war, Hegel was denounced in England, in much the same way as the current criticisms of contemporary French thinkers.

(Dr) Simon Lumsden, Iniversity of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia

French women's sense of balance

IN THE Guardian Weekly of October 26 there are two articles -"Nanny minder case puts mother on trial" and "A bra too far" - and I do believe one accounts for the other

In "A bra too far", Alex Duval Smith accuses French women of being too accommodating of their men. Moreover they laugh at feminist political correctness and, worse, don't feel victimised. But then, in France, "It is much easier to have a forest policies in a responsible was good job and run a family than it is | Finland grows more than it cuts it in other countries". This is true no only because there are creches and kindergartens where all children go from the age of three, but also be | Olli Kivinen cause nobody sees anything wrong

What happened to Deborah Eappen (hate mail, etc) just couldn't happen in France, where there is total agreement that mothers do not harm their children when they work outside the home.

These two very different outlooks between French and American societies may partly explain French women's "cosy complicity" with their men and why women here usually laugh off sexist ads and don't feel victimised. GUARDIAN WEBKLY

INTERNATIONAL NEWS 3 Russia and Japan kiss and make up

ames Meek in Krasnoyarsk

YOU report on the same pages French Roman Catholic is ops' apology to Jews and the same der of 10 Bosnian Croats to b HE end of the second world international war crimes traci war is nigh, the leaders of Russia and Japan announced (October 12). The juxtaposition provides to question: isn't the value of se last weekend, closing their informal apology terribly undermined by Siberian summit with a declaration of intent to sign a peace treaty by 2000.

Church's silence about the man crimes of Roman Catholic Bosio Croats? Its complicity is hardy to cealed. The thousands of pilors who visit Medugorje find the large flags hoisted directly in fud of the town's recently built dura On one side of the Vatican fax that of the self-declared illeral to nically cleansed" statelet of liene Bosna, and on the other that d Croatia. Medugorje is in Bosis Herzegovina.

Nicholas Townsend, Tiverton, Devon

Briefly

ONE assumes that the United States administration const ered the reconomic and social conquences of making their applicable on bananas to the World Trad-Organisation before filing it (Rong bananas, October 5). Whether the did or not. I hope we will be spare future complaints from Washington of instability and a growing day trade in its own "back yard".

T SEEMS that a large number of Gypsies from the Czech Republic and Slovakia are currently seeking political asylum in Britain (November 2). If this is the case, surely we should not be considering for me moment the admission of either of these countries to the European Union or Nato. If these refugees at victims of discrimination or persect tion, it is surely not acceptable by the standards of either organisation (I)r) Kanald M Gabriel, Bédarrides, France

ENJOYED very much the feature "Still in thrull to paper power (October 26). I have been as associated to the control of the co shed as anyone else with the pils of paper everywhere. But may I take issue with the lest

paragraph about intensively man-aged plantations in Scandinavia? am afraid David Harrison has not visited this part of the world. I am greenish person myself, but i disagree strongly with these activities who paint this kind of picture.

There have been numerous quar rels about virgin forests, but these big, forest-covered countries har for a long period conducted their natural parks are huge by any star-Helsinki, Finland

The Guardian

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about proper behaviour — he exchanged kisses with Mr Yeltsin.

It remained unclear how the

Japanese prime minister, Ryutaro Hashimoto, and President Boris for some time shown frustration that two of the world's largest Yelisia would resolve the issue that has stopped the two countries fornally ending hostilities for more war with each other. than half a century — the status of the South Kurlle islands, seized by Soviet troops during the last days of

The meeting at Krasnoyarsi halfway between Tokyo and Moscow, was Mr Hashimoto's idea and was supposed to make him and Mr Yeltsin bond. It finished with a diplomatic breakthrough, and with Mr Hashimoto submitting to a ritual that goes against everything a Japan-ese man of his generation learned

Thai PM to

resign amid

market woe

THAILAND'S prime minister suc-

cumbed to months of escalating

economic pressure this week and

mnounced that he would resign

after parliament had passed key

Chavalit Yongchaiyudh's exit will please millions of Thais, who see

him as an obstacle to economic re-

covery, but it plunges Thailand and

its international creditors, including the International Monetary Fund

and World Bank, into deep uncer-

Mr Chavalit's decision to step

lown came after a key political ally

esigned as his chief economic ad-

iser. The six-party governing

coalition will now have to agree on

a new head of government until a

general election expected in Feb-

The choice will be crucial t

whether Thailand gains some respite from the battering suffered

by its share and currency markets

or plunges into more turbulence that could spark political unrest.

Corporate executives and office

lemonstrations in Bangkok last

month in frustration at the govern-

in the past four months the baht

nent's management of the crisis.

watering down the agreement.

The outcome will be keenly

watched by neighbouring countries

bles, Indonesia agreed an even

sharply on Monday as markets backed reform plans.

IMF aid, page 19

workers joined anti-government

lainty as they await a successor.

electoral and financial legislation.

Nick Cumming-Bruce in Bangkok

The president and I have agreed

to make maximum efforts to conclude a peace treaty by the year 2000," Mr Hashimoto said. Mr Yeltsin added: "We've reached the stage of concrete deadlines." The Hashimoto government has

Yeltsin and accused him of planning democracies -- only 6km apart at their closest - are technically With no sign of Mr Yelfsin giving way on Japan's demand to hand over the four South Kurile Islands, Tokyo

appears ready to try trade and friendship, believing that investment In the ravaged economy of the Russian Pacific region will bring it closer to Japan more quickly than hostility. Despite the eagerness of both eaders to hug and praise each other

from the start, conditions at Krasnoyarsk seemed unconducive to a jolly, relaxed male weekend.

The city was looking its brownest and filthlest, sheathed in drizzle and sleet and pollution from the smelter amoke stacks at its rim, its cracked grey tower blocks and poor, depressed inhabitants likely to confirm the deepest Japanese preju-dices about Russian chaos. Last Saturday, several thousand protesters in the city centre denounced Mr

to return the Kuriles to Japan. Yet the two leaders seemed determined to get the chemistry working. Mr Hashimoto presented Mr Yeltsin with a camera, Russia's main present in return was a pair of wolf skins.

The gifts were appropriate for a trading relationship between the two north Asian neighbours, which sees Japanese consumer goods being eagerly bought by Russians
— second-hand cars from Japan are common in Krasnovarsk - and raw material going the other way.

On the fringe of the summit, Mr Yeltsin's presence in Krasnoyarsk

was haunted by the succession issue — 2000 is the date of the next presidential election.

There was a bizarre scene at a signing ceremony for an agreement dividing powers between Krasno-yarsk region and the federal government in Moscow when, at the las minute, the Russian president in sisted on altering the document so that his heir-apparent, the deputy prime minister Boris Nemtsov, could sign it too.

Mr Yeltsin, aged 66, looked tired and had difficulty remembering the names of Krasnoyark's two subregions. The president's daughter and image-maker, Tatyana Dyachenko, was among those

watching the signing ceremony Asked about her father's workload - he visits China next week --- she insisted: "Everything will be fine." But the presence in the presidential party of a heart surgeon was a reminder of the heavy burden on a man with a history of health problems.

AURICE Papon, who is charged with crimes against umanity for the wartime deporation of Jews, was brought to a Bordeaux court in an ambulance following a week in hospital with bronchitis. After the opening of

the prosecution's case, he was

taken back to hospital

The Week

ORE than 150 countries emerged deadlocked in

warming, stymied by an earlier

announcement by the US that it

ORWAY'S prime minister,

Kjell Magne Bondevik, pledged \$28 million to help chil-

dren trapped in poverty at a con-

Comment, page 12

ference on child labour in Oslo.

had postponed cutting its own

Bonn from 10 days of talks

aimed at combating global

greenhouse gas emissions.

RITAIN'S attempts to regain the initiative in the Lockeroie bombing affair suffered a setback when Libya said it was mpossible for the two suspects o get a fair trial in Scotland.

A RETIRED couple in Minnesota, in the US, have dopted the Israeli spy Mordechai Vanunu in the hope of securing his release.

T WO brothers, Saher Abu and Mahmoud el-Ulla, were sentenced to death for killing nine Germans and an Egyptian outside Cairo's Egyptian Museum

HE trial of the second man charged with the Oklahoma City bombing, which killed 169 people in 1995, began. The case against Terry Nichols follows the conviction of Timothy McVeigh, who was sentenced to death in

HERE were serious doubts about Yesser Arafat's health after the European Union's special Middle East envoy, Miguel Moratinos, claimed that the Palestinian leader was "suffering from a physical and psycho-logical crisis".

S OUTH Africa's Truth and Reconciliation Commission won a reprieve from attacks on claimed he had been forced to frame its chief investige Dumisa Ntsebeza, by linking him with an apartheid-era guerrilla massacre.

HE Spanish supreme court convicted two senior Socialist party officials of illegal party financing, court sources said. Senator Josep Maria Sala was jailed for three years and former congressman Carlos Navarro received an eight-year sentence.

blockade was an abuse of the right film-makers, has died aged 86. Oblituery next week



Villagers from Lake Murray Station, in Papua New Guinea's Western Province, carry sacks of rice delivered by the Australian army to people suffering from the country's severe drought PHOTO DAVID GRAY

Truckers drive Jospin into a corner

Paul Webster In Paris

RENCH lorry drivers set up roadblocks across the country on Monday as the Socialist-led government tried to arrange urgent talks to stop the mass protest sinking into violence. Riot police were mohas fallen from 25 to the dollar to a | bilised to keep open the main Span-

i and German border crossings an eight-year low and business fail-The French administration was ures have prompted a string of cess to refineries and motorways if An almost \$18 billion IMF-led financial bail-out has failed to stop tlement. Last November the previthe rot, not least because of fears that Mr Chavalit and his allies might seek to protect their interests by country for 12 days.

The truckers are striking in support of claims for a \$1,600 minimum monthly wage and shorter working

hit by the collapse of investor confi-dence triggered by Thailand's trou-While the interior ministry prepared more police action to keep pribigger package with the IMF last week, but its currency appreciated vate traffic flowing and ensure food preliminary talks in Paris with em-

JFT, which walked out of talks last week, met Mr Gayssot and said they were ready, in principle, to attend the full meeting with Communist, Socialist and independent drivers' unions.

With leftwing critics accusing

him of swinging towards rightwing policies, the prime minister, Lionel Jospin, cannot afford a truckers' rotest like that which shook Alain 'Juppé's Gaullist-led government last preparing a tough plan to free ac | year. Even a settlement was unlikely to ease criticism of Mr Jospin, who talks on Tuesday fail to reach a set | faces challenges from government partners including the Socialist milious government stood aside from a tant left, the Communists and the similar conflict that paralysed the Greens over economic and social

> The 250,000 long-distance and local-delivery drivers represented by Communist-led, Socialist-led and nomous unions are angry because Mr Jospin's government, elected in June, has not enforced agreements on overtime and pay

and petrol supplies, the transport that were negotiated at the end minister, Jean-Claude Gayssot, held last year's demonstrations. that were negotiated at the end of About 10,000 firms where drivers ployers' representatives. Delegates lallege they receive little more than of the biggest hauliers' federation; the minimum wage of about \$1,100 to strike, which is the minimum wage of about \$1,100 to strike.

a month for a 60-hour week have been consulted about the strike.

After contacts between transport ministry officials and owners last week, it was clear that the government blamed bosses for the threatened showdown because they had not honoured promises made on bonuses and wages nearly a year ago Relations between the government and employers have worsened since talks on a 35-hour week broke down.

A clear warning to respect union claims was given by the Socialist party spokesman, François Hollande. But there was no sign that Mr Jospin. who keeps a firm control on the party despite having resigned from leader ship of it, would intervene personally.

Mr Jospin has been distracted by attacks within his coalition government over issues including tough policing proposals, heavier social security levies and the maintenance of repressive anti-immigration laws.

Europe's Transport Commissioner, Neil Kinnock, refused to SAMUEL FULLER, one of condemn the truckers or to say the Hollywood's outstanding sioner, Nell Kinnock, refused to

EM

Nick Cumming-Bruce in Phnom Penh

IFTEEN minutes digging exposed a pale, bloated finger jutting from the red mud. Another hour of toil under the burning sun and the diggers, faces masked against the stench of de-composing flesh, half shovelled, half rolled the body on to a straw mat and lifted it clear of the grave.

Twenty years after Pol Pot's rule

collapsed, and four years after a United Nations-run election, Cambodia's rice fields are again yielding a grim harvest of political atrocity.

This was the second body investigators plucked from the lonely spot, across a rain-filled stream and behind a clump of bushes in Oudong district, two hours' drive but just 40km as the crow flies northwest from Phnom Penh.

A further hour's work washing mud from the corpse revealed a tat-too that would help to identify it as Cino Sambath, a royalist intelligence general captured during the coup in July that ousted Cambodia's senior prime minister, Prince Norodom Ranaridth.

Four months on, graves such as this are casting a long shadow over attempts by Hun Sen, Prince Ranariddh's former co-prime minister and now Cambodia's undisputed boss, to win the recognition and legitimacy he craves.

They also pose a dilemma for Britain and other Western governments pondering whether to pro-vide financial and technical support for elections Hun Sen is promising to hold next year as proof that Cambodia's constitution and fledgling democracy is alive and well. The corpses retrieved from the mud of

Oudong make clear they are not. On a first visit two weeks earlier, investigators dug up the body of an-

chopped off. Official comments on the death said he had died resisting arrest. But his corpse told a different story; his arms were broken and he had been shot in the back of the

The two were among close to 50 royalist military men the UN Centre for Human Rights has confirmed were summarily executed in the days after the coup. The number edges higher every month and looks perhaps double this number. Analysts note that Hun Sen loyalists appear to have specifically targeted for liquidation the hard core of the royalist army structure.

So low are opinions of Prince Ranariddh and the corruption and incompetence his party brought to government that some Western diplomatic missions in Phnom Penh appear disposed to view the killings as a distraction from the main issue of whether elections will restore stable government.

To mollify international opinion Hurn Sen has promised to investigate abuses. Late last month he wrote to the UN secretary-general, Kofi Annan, assuring him that oppo-sition MPs who fled Cambodia after the coup would be free to campaign, and inviting observers to monitor the ballot. In what would be a major climbdown, some speculate he may even allow the now exiled Prince Ranariddh back to fight the elec-

His actions, however, are less re assuring. Authorities have yet to punish anyone for the grenade attack on an opposition politician, Sam Rainsy, which killed 18 people in April. Investigations of executions in July have met obstruction and outright intimidation.

There is a pervasive climate of impunity," a Western diplomat in Phnom Penh said. "If you are on the right side you can do what you other royalist general, Krouch want. The message to voters and Yoeum, his legs bound and hands candidates is: be careful."



A soldier stands guard as Balkan leaders arrive for a summit in Crete this week

Greek court orders Bonn to pay \$33m

Helena Smith in Athens

GNORING protests from Bonn, thousands of Greeks insisted last week that they would "fight" to get Germany to honour a court decision ordering it to provide compensation for crimes committed under the Nazi occupation

In a landmark ruling, a court in the central Greek city of Livadia, said Germany should pay \$33 million in reparations to a village whose residents were butchered by a Waffen-SS unit in 1944. The slaughter of 218 men, women and children Distomo is one of the worst atrocities of Nazi occupation of Greece.

Yiannis Stamoulia, the local governor who launched a campaign for compensation, said the verdict would encourage "hundreds of thousands" of Greeks to seek damages.
"The 35-page ruling was reached after 10 months of deliberation . . . | another country. "The [Giri Its scientific argumentation cannot | court's | decision violates introbe denied or discounted even by Bonn," Mr Stamoulis, who is also a awyer and former MEP, said, His district has 3, 100 claimants.

Greece suffered appallingly durng the three years the swastika flew ver the Acropolis, About 130,000 people were executed in different parts of the country, while about 300,000 more died of starvation. The ruins of villages that were pillaged and burnt by Nazi soldiers still scar the landscape. Greeks any that, unike other occupied countries, they were never adequately compensated,

"In 1960, Germany handed the Greek state the laughable amount of 115 million marks [\$68 million] in reparations," Mr Stamoulis said.

German officials dismissed the issue as moribund last week, saying that no court had jurisdiction over

tional law," said Alexander Alka: government spokesman.

Although the German goes ment is keen to close the books the matter of wartime reparation. Daving paid out around DMMS lion worldwide since 1945, the iss will not lie down. Jewish organisations were lock

of former slave labourers forced b

work in German industry under the

Nazls who are now demanding on

pensation. If the court rules in the

favour, it could open the flooders

in acceptations in Boan this week seeking pensions for thousands of Holocaust survivors in eastern le rope who have been largely ignored in the postwar reparations. And a Bonn court is expected to

> On Monday, the prosecution rended the judge that the court was ty-bound to instruct the jury if he thought manslaughter an appropriate charge. Woodward herself had regorously opposed any instruction

roduced a verdict of not guilty."

totographa been available earlier.

hard surface with sufficient force The prosecution dismissed the

INTERNATIONAL NEWS 5

New trial sought for British nanny

grounds for retrial on the basis of |

ater disclosure of the photographs

s "specious". Though the prosecu-

tion admitted disclosure had been

"sudden", it argued that the defen-dant was not disadvantaged because

the photos were taken at the same

time and showed the same subject

matter as photographs previously

They added that at the time of the

trial the defence had been "appar-

ently satisfied" with arrangements

for dealing with the late admission

The defence also demanded

new trial on the basis that the judge

should have told jurors they were

of the evidence.

Joanna Coles and Ed Vulliamy in Cambridge, Massachusetts

AWYERS for Louise Woodward, the 19-year-old British au pair convicted last week of murdering her eight-month-old charge, Matthew Eappen, deman-ded that the judge, Hiller Zobel, order an immediate retrial on the basis that the prosecution failed to submit crucial photographic evidence in its possession for nine months, which would have dramatically altered the course of the trial.

They argued that because the two photographs, which came to light only after the chief medical examiner, Michael Feigin, found them while cleaning out a cupboard, were submitted only two days before the end of the trial, the defence was prevented from property cross-examining witnesses.
While Woodward's lawyers ar-

gued that the evidence was "insufficient to support a conviction of any offence", they would ask that the udge "none the less enter a finding of guilty of the lesser offence of manslaughter" if a retrial was denied.

The prosecution said that the deence should not be permitted to proceed with an all or nothing strategy, sample the jury's verdict and then elect to move for a reduction to the very charge [manslaughter] they opposed sending to

On Thursday last week, the jury returned a verdict of second degree nunler, which carries a mandatory life sentence with no consideration parole before 15 years.

Asked by the judge if she had nything to say, Woodward replied: I'd just like to maintain my innocence. I never hurt Matty. I would never hurt Matty. I don't know what happened to him. I am not reaponsible for his death." issue a ruling next week in the car

a manslaughter". But Woodward's lawyers argued hat the missing photographic evience was grounds enough for a retrial. Citing a previous judgment, they said: "It is enough that on a full and reasonable assessment of the rial record, the absent evidence would have played an important role in the jury's deliberations and conclusions, even though it is not certain the evidence would have

They also alleged that the chief medical examiner, who knew of the photographs' existence, was guilty climinated, and their votes was that a cross-examination of Dr Fei-ferred. Ms McAleese eased through in in ferred. Ms McAleese eased through gin, in particular, concerning these
The singer Dana, derided have effectively impeached his testimony" had the

> At the centre of the defence argument is the claim that the photographs, recognised by both sides to be indisputably better images than those admitted during the prosecu-tion's case", showed "observable healing on the edges of the skull fracture", which Dr Feigin denied. Such evidence would confirm the elence's argument that Matthew ad been injured several weeks beore February 4, the day on which e prosecution said Woodward had aken him or alammed him against

Earlier, the prosecuting district

ttorney, Thomas Reilly, said the ury should have been given the opion of returning a manalaughter verdict. He told BBC TV: "I think it's im-

portant to realise that in a normal case - and it's the first time it's ever happened in my experience the jury would normally have been instructed on manslaughter, no mat-ter what Louise Woodward or her lawyers had said about it."

Three of the 12 jurors admitted they would have preferred the oprestricted to the question of tion of a manslaughter charge,

whether Woodward murdered the baby by beating him on February 4 agreed that Woodward was guilty of committing violence which led to Matthew's death, returning manslaughter verdict would have allowed the judge greater discretion n sentencing.

As vigils were held throughout Britain and money continued to flood into the Woodward appeal fund, demonstrations took place outside the Cambridge courtroom,

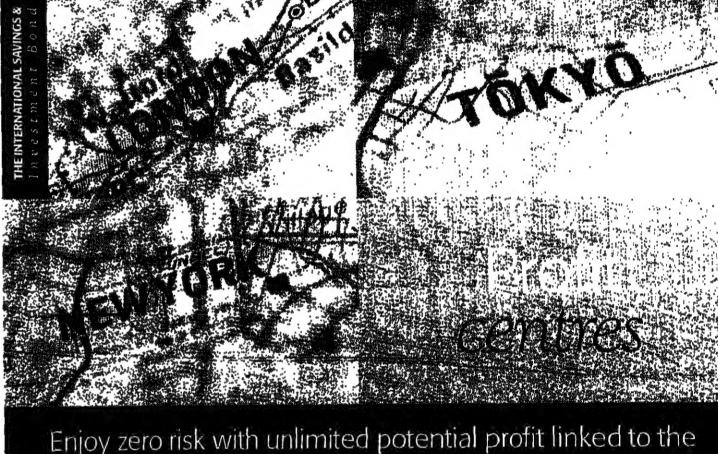
Protesting her daughter's innocence, Sue Woodward, aged 40, said: "I won't stop fighting for her while I've got a breath left in my body. For she's an innocent, an innocent child. And they've made a horrendous mistake."

Sunil and Deborah Eappen, as parents of the victim, were allowed to make an "impact statement", a recent court innovation designed to let relatives of victims have an impact on discretionary sentencing. In a long and moving tribute, Mrs Eap-pen talked of Matthew as a "happy, smiley baby".

ond degree murder is 15 years, after which Ms Woodward would be assessed for parole. But if she failed to accept responsibility for Matthew's death, she would be deemed by the parole board as having shown no remorse — a prerequisite for early relense - and her application would automatically be thrown out.

MAN

Comment, page 12



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Tough pragmatist topples NZ leader

Barbara Harper

N EW ZEALAND, the first country to give women the vote, may soon have its first women prime minister.

Jenny Shipley, the transport er, was confirmed as leader of the National Party this week after forcing Jim Bolger to announce that he will stand down as prime minister within weeks. Mr Bolger gave up the party leadership rather than face a challenge from Ms Shipley, who had garnered the support of most National Party MPs.

Ms Shipley, aged 45, quietly collected letters of support while Mr Bolger was in Edinburgh at last month's Commonwealth summit. She delivered an ultimatum to him on Monday.

After a day of talks with Ms Shipley, the prime minister delivered a terse statement that "changing circumstances" made it appropriate for him to step down. "I plan to work with my successor to achieve an orderly and successful transition," Mr Bolger said.

He indicated that he would stay on as prime minister until



after an Asia-Pacific summit later this month and a trip to China. Mr Bolger, aged 62, has been

prime minister for seven years, Since last October's election, the country's first under proportional representation, his party has held power through a uncomfortable coalition with the New Zealand First party.

Opinion polls have reflected a collapse in public confidence in the coalition, which has a singlevote majority.

. If Ms Shipley becomes prime

minister, both New Zealand's

the Labour Party, came close to becoming prime minister at the Ms Shipley, a former school eacher and daughter of a

burch minister, has a reputation as a pragmatist who does not shirk tough decisions. She is best known for dismantling much of what was left of the country's once vaunted social welfare system during her term as social welfare minister in the early 1990s. She was demonised by protesters and her effigy was burnt in the streets.

main parties will be headed by

women. Helen Clark, leader of

Further unpopularity awaited when she became health minister and set about putting hosnitals on a commercial footing.

Mr Bolger moved her from the health portfolio after the last " election in an attempt to smooth relations with the junior coalition partner, the New Zealand First party, which wanted more money spent on health and welfare. However, as minister for state enterprises, she pushed. shead with privatisations that went against the spirit of the coalition agreement.

Northerner wins Irish poll

MARY McALEESE, n 46-year-old law professor, last week became the first person from Northern Ireland to become Irish president. As head of state, she is the only Irish citizen who needs her government's express permission to travel abroad.

McAleese secured 59 per cent of the eliminated, and their votes in poli, and her closest challenger, Mary Banotti of the Fine Gael opposition party, got 41 per cent.

Ms McAleese, pro vice-chancellor at Queen's University, Belfast, seemed to be in trouble when leaked government papers suggested she was a Sinn Fein sympathiser. But it rebounded in her favour.

The new president, anti-abortion and against divorce, is a nationalist, but says she wants to work with Unionists, She has indicated that her first move as Ireland's eighthpresident may be to invite the Queen to Dublin in what would be the first visit by a British monarch. The two dined at Buckingham

Palace last year. The result of last week's election was a formality almost as soon as were sent to the press and to counting began. Only 50 per cent of | published last month.

against 64 per cent when Mari Robinson was elected in 1990.

Ms McAleese was close to when ning outright on the first counts the single transferable vote systematic taking 45.2 per cent of first profesence votes. Her nearest challenge Ms Banotti, the Dublin MEP, w the first choice of 29.3 per cent The other three candidates were the

outset, came third with 13.8 percei of first preference votes. Adi Rock. the one-time front-runner and me nuclear campaigner, was forth with Derek Nally bottom of the pal Meanwhile detectives in Data

investigating the leaking of son government documents last well which indicated that Ms Mcdes was sympathetic to Sinn Feb. rested a former ministerial side Officers from the National teau of Criminal Investigation and the man's home in Dublin: He at

breach of the Official Secrets Ad The department of foreign and documents about Ms McAles

being questioned about an ales



Martin Kettle

ULIUS CAESAR said that he came, he saw and he conquered. Eighteen years ago, when Deng Xiaoping made the first visit to the United States by a Chinese leader, that was pretty much how it felt then too. But in Jiang Zemin's case last week, it was different. He came, he was seen and then he went away again, leaving American opinion just as divided over China now as it was before his

That is not how the Chinese, who, after all, made up 50 per cent of last week's Washington summit. see it. The Chinese media carried extensive and respectful coverage of President Jiang's week in the United States. The formalities of the visit to the White House were shown at length on Chinese television news oulletins — even to the extent of the national anthems and the 21-gun salute being rebroadcast uncut. Shorn of all protests and disagree-ment, the broadcast had the effect of showing China's leader being greeted by the US president as a re-

In Washington - as in any imperial capital - they see it differently. Jiang's visit was a calculated risk for a nation that recognises a great power when it sees one, but which remains preoccupied with ensuring that relations between two such nations take place in a moral and political framework in which the last word, and the principal trade advantage, ought to lie with the Much of Jiang's visit was taken up

with a somewhat bizarre series of photo-opportunities in scenic and folksy corners of the US. He went swimming off Hawaii. He donned a tricorn hat during a visit to colonial Williamsburg in Virginia. He had intended to pose by the Liberty Bell in Philadelphia, but that was cancelled because of demonstrations. On Friday last week he went through with a scheduled ringing of the opening bell at the New York Stock Exchange, though maybe it was not the ideal week to do that. And last Saturday, he strolled through leafy Harvard university, strutting his stuff as a philosopher president.

Few of these photo-ops appeared back in China, so presumably they were planned for the benefit of US public opinion in the hope that they would show a smiling and self-aware Asian tiger roaming through the American jungle. If so, they were largely a failure.

This is because US public opinion has insisted on seeing this visit



through the prism of the human rights issue. This was the first visit to the US by a Chinese leader since the Tiananmen repression eight years ago, and the first since the uneasy transition in Hong Kong at the end of June. Troubled memories of those events have scarcely dimmed here, and they have been under scored by a series of recent films -Seven Years In Tibet, Red Corner, and the soon to be released Kundun

 which have once more highlighted both human rights and the continuing annexation of Tibet. Put that together with a voluble pro-Taiwan lobby, and it is scarcely surprising that the Jiang visit has been overshadowed by human rights concerns and protests.

In that context it was inevitable that the principal event of the visit was the White House press confer-

1715 and 1745.

their meeting. This was an occasion on which the US media was on its mettle, anxious to fulfil its own selfimage by asking hard questions to the visiting leader. The hard questions - about Tiananmen, imprisoned dissidents, Taiwan and Tibet were duly asked, but it was Jiang's uncompromisingly tough answers to them which defined the

visit more than any other episode.

This was a difficult moment for Clinton, and you could see that he felt the mantle of leader-of-the-freeworld on his shoulders as he prepared to respond to liang's po-faced ustification of the Tiananmen Square deaths. But the US leader passed the test well, making his points with force but without overstepping the protocols that required him to act the polite host.

Before the Jiang visit began, the White House had tried to play down

expectations that much w come out of it. Summits show routine and uneventful, the win security adviser, Sandy Ben said; don't expect them to beli goodies. But that isn't Circ style. The US president is and of pitfalls for such a ratingsm

political leader.

The centrepiece of the une ping was the much tralled quiz quo between Washington ad le jing over nuclear trade (2) agreed, in writing, to stop feet nuclear know-how to the 15 World, and especially to loat return, Washington promised at a 12-year-old ban on nucker a operation with China. This was president said, a "win-win-win to for America, advancing US senio trade and environmental interesall in one go.

The trade element is the ma ndisputable of these three, sixe group of US companies, led by Westinghouse, reckons that the deal will net them up to \$15 kg. worth of business over the near years, with more to come. Butilalso clear that, in the long on, C. nese economic expansion will be boom not just for China but fee those nations, not only the le which can supply the Chinese € clean energy technology, whete in power generation, domestical

ance or, above all, the motorca. In a week in which statistics to been flying thick and fast throat the Washington air, perhaps t best one to remember is that (its has 1.2 billion people but stil of 3 million cars. Those who sed i guiding star for US policy towal-China will find that is one they a steer by for several years to come

Washington Post, page 15

INTERNATIONAL NEWS 7 Jordan's king clamps down on press

Julian Borger in Amman

summifeer, and he usual plenty of goodies that fully judy from his own point of view, theks ing of a visit that was otherwal!

ARSH censors in awa nave muzzled Jordan's newspapers in advance of Tuesday's parliamentary elections, forcing 13 weeklies to close and setting back freedom of expression by decades, iournalists and opposition parties

At a recent conference co-spon sored by Jordanian liberal groups and the London-based anti-censorship organisation Article 19, journal ists said the press laws had imposed a blanket of fear and self-censorship. King Hussein altered the press law

by royal decree in May, setting a mininum capital requirement for any

Surreal win

in ghost poll

GABRIEL García Márquez, Colombia's Nobel prize-winning

novelist and grandfather of magic

realism, claims that the harsh daily

reality of violence and poverty in

Colombia is tempered by sublime

All very well, but when these qual-

ities of illusion colour major political

events, it might be worth asking a

lew questions. After months of vio-

ence and intunidation, which saw

the murder of scores of local officials

and slightly surreal forces.

COLOMBIA DIARY

Jeremy Lennard

weekly publication of 300,000 Jordan-ian dinara (\$445,000), while extend-ing the list of officially taboo subjects to the armed forces and security services. The amendment also included vaguely worded ban on articles which include false information or rumours that lead to harming the general interest, or government institutions, or its workers'. Fines for breaking the press laws were raised 15-fold, and offending newspapers

are threatened with suspension. "What we do all day long is self-censorship. We hate it, but this is the way it is," said George Hawatmeh, the editor of the Jordan Times and head of the new Arab Media Institute in Amman.

Before imposing the restrictions, the king complained about journalists" "deteriorating morals", and said they were distorting Jordan's image.

The opposition claims the restric-tions are designed to stifle dissent in the run-up to the elections. The main Islamist opposition bloc and several prominent liberals are boycotting the poll, accusing the government of try-ing to manipulate the outcome. Taher Masri, a former prime min-

ister who has joined the boycott, said: "The spirit of free journalism is on the way down . . . It's like we were back 40 or 50 years ago under martial law."

Martial law was formally lifted in 1991 after 34 years, as part of a

began with the first free elections in 1989. That process, the government's critics say, has been put into reverse to counter opposition to Jordan's 1994 peace treaty with Israel

The foreign minister, Fayez Tarawneh, defended the press laws, arguing that the weekly tabloids had abused press freedom and become irresponsible. "If they hear any rumour in any salon in Amman. the next day it is a headline," he said. When they write something they can't substantiate and which affects the dignity of the people, of officials or other Arab officials . sometimes they are questioned."

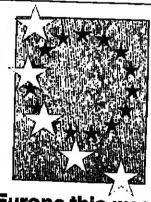
and economic austerity measures.

Said Essouland, who heads the Article 19 department that monitors the Arab world, said: "There were provocative articles, but this is the price you pay for democracy." He said Jordan had been among the leading Arab states - Egypt, Morocco and Lebanon — as far as ress freedom was concerned but had "slipped out of the top league" n recent months

An Article 19 report, Blaming The Press: Jordan's Democratisation Process in Crisis, presented at the conference, listed 63 cases in which newspapers had been prosecuted under catch-all charges such as "infringing on morals and ethics". "insulting the president of an Arab country" and "infringing on the dignity of the people".

Washington Post, page 15

Employment initiatives are just the job



Europe this week

Martin Walker

T IS always a pleasant surprise when a politician admits to error | dealing with long-term unemployand promises to change the way of Union's structural and social funds, now running at well over \$30 billion a year, the confession of past failure by the European commissioner for employment and social affairs,

employment in Barcelona. "Because 📗 our present policies have failed. Each year, our present policies result in 2 million people being added to long-term unemployment in Europe. One in five of our young people leave our education and

Europe's unemployed ever gets into | Works, which has so far put almost

ployment strategy, which will be the focal point of this month's jobs summit, to target both training and the long-term unemployed. But it was unfortunate that Flynn's remarks came at the press conference for the opening of the Integra meeting. rather than at the end. Had he remained for the full two days of the conference on finding jobs for the socially excluded he might have learned something of value, as this reporter certainly did. It was not just the usefulness of

local governments, non-governmenpublic services, we are beginning to | bly useful citizen. resemble Oscar Wilde's cynic, who

the value of nothing".

a training programme." Hence the Commission's new em-

tal organisations and social workers coming together from all over Europe to share their experience of fiti-cleaning crew. They help tourists, look after lost children, act doing things. And when the issue in problems of finding work for the have had a striking impact on local as unofficial special constables, and disabled, for ex-prisoners and the crime and civic order. ethnic minorities. It was also the On average, they last about nine months in the job, and then almost perception that whether in Finland or Spain, Scotland or Sicily, the real invariably get another full-time job problem of the long-term unemployed was the psychological one of the city guides stands so high with Padraig Flynn, was remarkable.
"Why is reform necessary?"
Flynn asked a conference on crises that afflict people out of work local employers. And having held down a responsible and useful job, the guides themselves are transfor two years and more. There was formed from being "a problem", as another lesson; that in trying to cut one of the long-term unemployed, the immediate costs of social and to being a self-confident and palpa-

The key to everything we do is knows "the price of everything and that we start by giving people a job. social systems with no marketable qualifications. Only one in 10 of all shall's programme, called Glasgow pers, for a child care worker, for expressions and the city's long-term unemply and the city We don't trawl the unemployment

gow and have been out of work for at least a year," explains Marshall, 1,000 long-unemployed Glaswe-gians into full-time work or full-time who used to work in London for Shelter, the homeless charity. education. Its most visible success Glasgow Works uses a client's are the City Centre guides in their distinctive jackets. They might be

unemployment benefit, topped up money from the EU social fund and called Redcoats but for the unfortuwith some other resources from the nate historical echoes of the unicity council, gives each new appliform worn by the English armies cant some training, and then sets who put down the Scottish risings of them to work. As well as the city guides, they have another remark-There are 44 of the guides at any able scheme under which the longgiven time. In teams of two, they are term unemployed are trained to given a street to patrol in the city become job stewards for disabled centre or its West End. They have people. They work individually to train their disabled clients for job small radios, to contact the police, the social services, or another couninterviews, accompany them to the cil office to arrange the removal of rubbish or abandoned cars, or to nterview, help them arrange transport, liaise with the employer, and summon the Glasgow Works grafmake follow-up visits.

> ing its programme just as the Netherlands was setting up its own "Stadwacht" service, which gives the long-term unemployed some training, a uniform and a radio, 120 per cent of the minimum wage, and sends them into a small neighbourhood to become a kind of special

ample, simply noting at the bottom | far avoided what could be a but of the ad that you must live in Glas- | with trade unions, who current with trade unions, who cure support their programmes, but his askance at the prospect of each lished jobs being undermined? cheap, subsidised labour Glassi Works has learned a lot from # lar schemes in other Europe countries. They decided to se their Job stewards to the job inter views their clients get, after sees that it worked in a similar project

Genk, in Belgium. This European connection was both ways. In Portugal and Spolocal groups working with refuge have learned from the pioneers work of the London Borough dis ing, that by training a young religions as a journalist or broadcasts. their own community they prob an extremely useful service to the demoralised refugee groups by suddenly have an information in turn, gives the trainee journal the experience and self-confident to go on to a career in the media

None of this is easy. Nor is cheap, unless you count the and longer-term social cost of doning the long-term unemply or at-risk groups to the despit life on welfare. Nor does it fit est

and the kidnapping of many more. Colombians went to the polls in naionwide local elections on October 26. By polling day, some 2,000 candidates had withdrawn; in some towns there was no one left to vote for. The government and much of the media trumpeted the elections as a victory for peace and democracy, which to many was about as believable as a bicycling fish. Granted there was not too much violence on polling day, but this was due to the resence of 200,000 soldiers on the streets. No one seemed to notice the

contradiction of banner headlines

shouting "pax y democracia" along-side pictures of tanks at town halls and AK 47s resting on ballot boxes. Nearly 10 million people voted for peace, we were told. But more than 10 million people didn't. Why? Fear certainly played its part. In some areas, dominated by leftwing guer-fillas and rightwing paramilitaries, the turnout time least than 1 per cent the turnout was less than 1 per cent. and in several towns the new mayor was elected on just one vote.

But despite raging poverty and public disorder, this is not a country of political activists. Recent history Why. The last time the radi cal left tried to organise itself as the Patriotic Union, 3,500 of its members were murdered over 10 years,

until the movement gave up politics.
So, on the surface the public is abstaining and accepting — an image reinforced by extreme politeness and nood to become a kind of special constable. They are sometimes called Melkert jobs after the Dutch employment minister Ad Melkert, who has boasted of his new job creation scheme reflecting Dutch values: "We are restoring a feeling of safety in cities by introducing the "Stadswacht" street patrols and bringing back tram conductors," he said.

Glasgow Works has looked at Glasgow Works has looked at the city's long-term unemployed.

The same people who wouldn't say boo to a political good works ploy of using unemployed after ego. Friends and lives are lost over garage bills and football results benefits system that it had bit group Chumbawumba twisted the ground. Still, on current well have ground to find the city's long-term unemployed.

Glasgow Works has looked at third within five years. formality. But, and this takes us back



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Sultans of spin to head 'rogue briefings' inquiry

about the Government's attitude towards the single European currency, the Prime Minister, Tony Blair, has ordered a review into the role of spin doctors. But it will be headed by the Government's two leading practitioners of spin — Peter Mandelson, the Minister without Portfolio, and Alastair Campbell, Mr Blair's press spokesman.

The intention is to stop "rogue stories being allowed to run unchallenged as representing government policy. The review could, however, also result in government advisers and spokesmen relying less on socalled soin and more on statements made formally and on the record.

The review committee will also include Sir Robin Butler, head of the civil service, who has expressed concern about the exodus of senior Whitehall Information officers since Labour came to power in May. Eight have gone in just six months amid complaints that they were being squeezed out by a Labour team of politically-motivated "special advisers".

Information fed "off the record" to selected journalists by a Treasury special adviser, Charles Whelan, was blamed for the débacle over the market-sensitive single currency issue, and even Mr Campbell was forced to admit that spin doctors had become too much a part of the

stories they were putting about. Under proposals now being looked at, Mr Campbell would be named in stories about which he commented. And individual ministers would have official spokesmen who would be described as such in newspaper reports. No longer will political journalists have to depend for important information on unnamed "sources close to" the minis-

DETAILS of next year's referen-dum on whether London should have an elected mayor were announced by the Deputy Prime Minister, John Prescott, who immediately provoked criticism over the

question to be asked. Voters will be faced, on May 7. with just one question: "Are you in favour of the Government's proposals for a Greater London Authority, made up of an elected mayor and a | tive Superintendent Jack Slipper, separately elected assembly?"

The politico novelist and Tory, Lord Archer, currently the front on the National Health Service and runner for the job of mayor, said it | would want to draw a pension. with an "all or nothing" choice. They should be asked, separately, whether they wanted an assembly. and whether they wanted an execu-

tive mayor. He was supported by the leftwing Labour MP Ken Livingstone, leader of the former Greater London Council. He, too, has shown an interest in the job, but believes the mayoralty should go to the leader of the largest group in an elected assembly.

Richard Branson is also touted as a runner but has yet to state his intentions. It is thought that the rules would require the Virgin entrepreneur to give up his business interests.

Mr Prescott defended what he called a balanced package: "There is no sound case for a mayor without an assembly, or an assembly without a mayor.



English National Opera would abandon its London Coliseum base and join the Royal Opera and Royal Ballet at the Royal Opera House in Covent Garden, which is currently being redeveloped at a cost of £213 million. Mr Smith said the Government could no longer afford to subsidise the companies in their

The Royal Opera has had a disasrous start to its first of two years in exile while its Covent Garden home s rebuilt, with losses expected to reach £750,000 for the first half of this season. A board meeting was told that 230 casual staff had not been paid for up to three months, that some pay cheques for back stage crews had bounced, and that another round of redundancies was on the cards. The management has been heavily criticised by the Arts Council and was last week de-scribed as "a shambles" by Gerald Kaufman, the chairman of a Contmona select committee investigatng its performance.

ARETIRED railway worker, Anthony Sawoniuk, aged 76, rom Bermondsey, London, has been charged with war crimes allegedly committed in Nazi-occupied Europe. He denied murdering five Jews in 1942 in his home town in Belarus, and was released on bail. He is the second man to be prosecuted under the 1990 War Crimes Act.

BRITAIN formally asked Brazil to extradite Ronald Biggs, who escaped from a London prison after serving only 15 months of a 30-year sentence for his part in the £2.6 million "Great Train Robbery". He has lived for 27 years in Brazil which, until this year, had no extradition treaty with the United Kingdom.

Biggs, now 68, who has made a career as an author, raconteur and tourist attraction in his South American haven, may well remain there under a statute of limitation. Even his one-time pursuer, former Detecthought he should be left alone. He said he would probably be a drain





Under the hammer . . . A 15ft-high Latvian bust of Lenin, weighing 5 tonnes, is unloaded at Sobsylip Billingshurst, Sussex. The statue is expected to raise £18,000 at auction

Britain blamed for volcano 'fiaso'

an Black

HE chief minister of the volcano-stricken island of Montserrat, David Brandt, last week demanded a judicial inquiry into the "fiasco" of Britain's handling of the crisis, which he said had contributed to the deaths of

Mr Brandt told the Commons select committee on international development that conditions in emergency shelters in the north of the Caribbean dependency were "not as good as the conditions in which they keep cattle in the UK". He also accused Clare Short, the Inernational Development Secretary, of giving "inaccurate and mislead ing" evidence when she testified to the committee last month.

Sensitive to criticism over Montserrat after Ms Short's "golden elephants" gaffe in the summer, Downing Street insisted Mr Brandt's charges were "unfounded". The chief minister appeared to

BRITAIN'S £73 million a year aid and trade programme,

discredited after being linked to

ing of Malaysia's Pergau dam, is

Clare Short, the International

Development Secretary, was

wbite paper on overseas aid

The decision to replace the

programme with development

aid concentrating on the relief of

poverty without damaging the

environment follows a tense

Whitehall battle between Ms

Short's ministry, the

Department of Trade and

groups from the World

Development Movement.

Industry, and the Treasury.

It is certain to be welcomed by

Companies which build large

aid charities and campaigning

policy for nearly 20 years.

expected to announce the deci-

sion this week as part of the first

rms sales and the illegal i

David Hencke

dence about new housing between | placed unfairly with the government Tony Blair and the Jamaican government, officials said. Mr Brandt said he blamed Britain

for the deaths of 19 islanders on June 25 after failing to provide proper housing in the wake of the Soufriere Hills volcano erupting back into life in July 1995, "The loss of life was a direct con-

sequence of the failure to make reasonably adequate housing available two years after the crisis," he said in written evidence. Two weeks ago, Ms Short told the committee that decision-making over the crisis was "dreadful" because of the sheer number of different players involved.

With officials complaining of an "alphabet soup" of overlapping authorities and departments, Ms Short has spoken of her frustration at the slowness of the Montserrat government in dealing with the

Mr Braudt said last week: "This has been a demonstrable failure. It | moved as quickly and efficients has allowed a degree of 'passing the | we could to provide tempor' misunderstood correspon-

Short to end aid and trade programme

power stations, dams, roads,

milways and communication

systems have been the main

programme, which can con-

projects costing as much as

£300 million. Many of the con-

tracts were won in competition

with the French, Germans and

subsidies. Companies had been

Ms Short persuaded Margaret

Beckett, President of the Board

of Trade, to agree to the abolition

Chancellor, has also backed Ms

Short's case to abolish the pro-

revealed that the benefits of aid

funded by the taxpayer were not

gramme after internal reviews

clear-cut, as sometimes the

prices charged for equipment

were higher than unsubsidised

of the programme, Gordon Brown, the

lobbying the DTI to retain the

Americans, who also offered

tribute a third of the cost of

beneficiaries of the aid and trade

of Montserrat, It is for that new we are demanding an imme and full judicial inquiry to ice mine the exact events and hore have arrived at this fiasco."

Britain has committed some million to aid the dependency in 1995. Of an original population 11,000, only 2,500-3,000 pc remain. Last year the island f ceived twice as much aid as Etpia, which has 50 million people. Mr Brandt has repeated

charged that the Department let? Cook sought to reassure fellow EU members that the euro will be safe ternational Development does to n British hands when the key decihave an incentive to improve or sions are taken on who qualifies. tions on Montserrat because t favours a complete evacustion? "We will discharge this responsidepartment and the Foreign Off billty to the best of our abilities, fully and scrupulously, in a way that have repeatedly denied this. On Britain's role in profit temporary housing in the sec shows our constructive approach to

Under the deal the BII will

able to keep a separate pro-gramme to aid industry, but it

money will have to come from

policy. This means that proke

exploit workers or infringe

human rights will not be sup-

last government will be hou

oured, allowing the cash alo

cated to be phased out over

The programmes have been

oping countries, from design

next three years.

All schemes approved by

ported.

the ministry's existing re-

Europe at its best. We want ecosomic and monetary union to be a and Mr Brandt's suggestion bei had contributed to islants success," he said. deaths, a spokesman insisted Even though we will not be taking part in the first wave in 1999, it is still in our interests that it should acceed. We will use our presidency give Emu the best start we possiy can. This is an issue that matters the people of Europe. We will not

> With the tone of Britain's relations with Europe changed by sign-ing the Social Chapter after the election, Mr Cook argued that people now need a union that is more relevant to their lives.

The EU seems will not support schemes with that do not touch people's lives, abmuch of its time discussing things istractions and theories rather than a concrete agenda," he said. The people need to believe that their agenda is also our agenda. Britain has a mission as president of the uropean Union -- to give Europe

oack to the people." The German Chancellor, Helmut Kohl, will keep the door open for hitish membership of monetary union on the easiest of terms, despite the Government's decision to heavily criticised for the emin ostpone UK entry until at least after the next election. Mr Kohl said he is prepared to waive the requireent that Britain should return to the exchange rate mechanism for official forgot to pass them to two years before qualifying for montwo years before qualifying for monelary union, thereby enabling Brit-

aln to join as soon as the political

decision is made.

virgin rainforest to creating widespread industrial policies Parliament's financial water dog, the National Audit Office has also condemned many pects of the aid.

GUARDIAN WEEKLY November 9 1997

Tory euro wounds reopened

Michael White

ILLIAM HAGUE'S beleaguered leadership team was bracing itself for a renewal of the Conservative party's running civil war over Europe after further turmoil over the single currency came within an ace of delivering another defector into the Labour

To the astonishment of some MPs, the pro-European campaigner Peter Temple-Morris was granted two face-to-face meetings with Tony Blair as he edged towards a private ommitment to defect last weekend.

Cook vows

currency

to help single

BRITAIN will give "the best start possible" to the European ain-

gle currency when the historic deci-

sion on who joins is made in May —

despite the Government's policy of

waiting to make up its mind until

after 1999, the Foreign Secretary,

Mr Cook insisted the Govern-

ment is committed to the successful

handling of the euro project during

Britain's European Union presi-

dency because it is "an issue that

Setting out a detailed agenda for

giving Europe back to the people", in an address to the Irish institute

European Affairs in Dublin, Mr

matters to the people of Europe".

Robin Cook, promised this week.

He drew back because rallying cries by the former Deputy Prime Minister, Michael Heseltine, and the former Chancellor, Kenneth Clarke, gave him fresh heart.

Last week, two pro-European MPs, Ian Taylor and David Curry, resigned from Mr Hague's team after the Conservative leader said that Britain should not enter into monetary union for at least 10 years.

But instead of conniving in another stage-managed defection, Mr Temple-Morris, a Tory backbencher for 23 years, called a press conference to declare: "I have now decided to stay within the Conserva- join we will."

others and under distinguished leadership -- to resist and change this policy."

The dramatic change of heart was triggered by statements by Mr Hesel-tine and Mr Clarke in favour of early British membership of the euro.

Mr Heseltine used radio and TV interviews to unleash opinions he has long held in private. He pre-dicted: There is going to be a single currency. Short of nuclear war or something like that, the Europeans are going to do that. The only issue is when Britain joins, because

Big business, the party's traditional paymasters, increased pressure on Mr Hague by condemning the new hardline stance.

Labour officials who had been nursing Mr Temple-Morris through his proposed defection for weeks expressed their respect for the MP's courage and for his second thoughts. "Now that Clarke and Heseltine have done what they have done it's a fight worth fighting. So we wish him well," said one.

Ministers are licking their lips a the prospect of more Tory squabbling. It will take the heat off the Government's own, not dissimilar, tactical dilemmas. Mr Blair hopes to woo public opinion away from tabloid-driven Euro-scepticism in a referendum, probably after 2001.

UK NEWS 9 In Brief

🎹 HE Government announced the end of exclusion orders and the power of internment, two of the most controversial measures brought in to combat

A PIONEERING police scheme that dispenses "Maori justice" to teenage offenders is to go national after success in a test project. Teenage criminals are brought face to face with their victims to apologise and come to terms with the consequences of their crimes.

SYCHOPATHIC patients at Ashworth top security hospital had such control over their unit that hardcore pornography was on sale and one man ran several businesses from his room, an inquiry heard. There were also allegations of child abuse on the premises.

ASER pointers, pen-sized Languagets that emit an intense pinpoint beam, were banned from sale after attacks on bus drivers, firefighters and footballers.

M AJOR Eric Joyce, the army officer who accused the armed forces of being steeped in social, sexual and racial prejudice. has been told he will not face the court martial he expected.

BRITISH ferry companies are facing a massive bill to fly home Czech and Slovakian refugees after they were refused permission to pass back through France. The companies are legally responsible for the repatriation of Gypsies who have vithdrawn their asylum claims.

PRINCE CHARLES'S nine-day tour of southern Africa became an all-out charm offensive when he joked with reporters, hinted at the need to reform the monarchy, revealed a detailed knowledge of the Spice Girls. and came close to apologising for Britain's conduct during the

S IX IRAQIS opposed to Saddam Husseln's regime were found guilty of hijacking a Sudan Airways Airbus and forcing it to land at Stansted airport. But the fury called for a degree of comesion given the background o the defendants, who had argued that they acted out of "necessity as their lives were in danger.

Inglo-Zulu war.

RISHNA Maharaj, a British businessman convicted of a double murder in the United States 10 years ago, was taken off Death Row and will be resentenced. His lawyers welcomed the move as a limited success he had been hoping for a retrial.

CADBURY'S Swiss Chalet chocolate bar became the latest casualty in the long-running European chocolate war when a High Court judge ordered its withdrawal after complaints from a Swiss trade association.



Richard Norton-Taylor

COCKTAIL of drugs was A COCKTAIL of drugs was
given to British troops in the
Guif war despite an official
warning about the risks in olved, the Government admitted for the first time last week.

It also disclosed that three senior officials had been disciplined after a separate inquiry into how ministers had misled Parliament over the use of highly dangerous organophosphate pesticides during the conflict.

The disclosures, broadly welcomed by groups represe ing veterans suffering from alleged Gulf war syndrome, ande by the armed forces minister, John Reid.

Dr Reid said an internal inquiry had found the Ministry of Defence was warned by the Department of Health in 1990 about "anxieties" over the simultaneous use of anthrax vaccine . and pertussis (whooping cough) vaccine unlicensed for adults.

It had not been possible, he said, to establish if the concerns were deliberately ignored or an . used to counter the effects of chemical and biological weapons. An MoD report said the health

department faxed it a warning from an animal testing laboratory urging further tests on the two-drug cocktall before it was given to humans. The report said the fax was overlooked "in the extremely busy period lead-ing up to the Gulf conflict.

Cold turkey island . . . Alcoholics and drug victims are to be treated on a 'temptation-free' sea fort used

It said the fax was not logged for 10 days, was not marked by the official who received it for anyone else to consider, and a search of files found no copies of the fax.
No one at the MoD, other than

the official to whom the fax addressed, remembered discussing the matter with the laboratory. But scientists at the laboratory said they discussed their concerns with two or three MoD officials.

No MoD official has been disriplined over the affair, However, Dr Reid said a senior civil servant had been reprimended, and two officers disciplined, for providing ministers with mislea information on the use of pesticides in the Gulf conflict.

The Royal British Legion velcomed the MoD's admissions. But Manchester solicitors Donns, acting for more than 1,300 veterans, said Dr Reid had demonstrated there had been negligence at the heart of government.

Urgent review of breast units

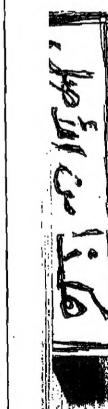
EVERY breast cancer screening unit in Britain has been ordered to review its service to restore public confidence, improve quality and eliminate organisational weak-nesses, writes Chris Mihill.

The Health Secretary, Frank Dobson, this week announced an overhaul of screening programmes following recommendations by the Chief Medical Officer, Sir Kenneth Calman, who had investigated reports of failures in the breast cancer screening service at the Royal evon and Exeter NHS Trust

All NHS trusts with breast cancer screening units have been told to report by the end of January on how they will deliver a "high quality service". They will be expected to agree "action plans" by the end of February to ensure national standards are peing met. Responsibility for the quality of breast screening services will be taken away from trusts and restored to NHS regions, which will able to close down units which fail to meet national standards.

Mr Dobson told MPs: "Women in east Devon have been put through worry, anguish and worse as a result of the failures of the screening ser vice at the Royal Devon and Exeter."

An audit of 1,920 breast X-rays commissioned by the trust found that 229 women should have been called for further assessment.



TERMINALLY III woman dropped her historic High Court battle for a ruling that her doctor could lawfully ease her death with drugs, after being assured that she could have her wish.

Annie Lindsell, aged 47, who has only weeks to live, sought a declaration that her doctor could adminis ter drugs to prevent the mental or physical distress of the final stages of motor neurone disease. But she discontinued her battle after the judge and lawyers appointed by the Official Solicitor and the Attorney General agreed that no court ruling

The case hinged on the so-called mental distress caused by inability doctrine of double effect, first ex-

However, it was supported by the

parents of Tony Bland, the Liver-

pool football fan who suffered an irreversible coma after the Hills-

borough tragedy and was allowed to die after a long court battle.

The suggestion to harvest coma victims comes from a working party

known as the International Forum

for Transplant Ethics. It is headed by Sir Raymond Hoffenberg, former

president of the Royal College of

Physicians. Other British members

include Ian Kennedy, professor of

law and ethics at King's College,

London, and Robert Sells, professor

of transplant medicine at Liverpool

The working group says that once a decision has been made to withdraw treatment in persistent

vegetative state (PVS) patients, and

to allow them to die, thought should

be given to saving the lives of peo-ple on transplant lists. Withdrawing food and water means death takes

place over a 10-12 day period, and

because of dehydration and other

changes the organs become dam-

aged and cannot be used for trans-

this is at present against the law.

they can see no moral distinction

between allowing someone to die by

Jack Scarisbrick, director of Life,

described the proposal as morally

unacceptable and a corruption of

medicine. He said the condition of

PVS was uncertain, and some

patients had been known to recover.

the Catholic medical ethics research

unit, said: "It is a fairly repulsive sug-

gestion. Seriously ill people should

end doesn't justify the means."

not be treated as organ banks. The

Helen Watt, of the Linacre Centre,

starvation and actively ending life.

University.

pounded by Lord Devlin in the case of fits in the final stages of motor neuwho in 1957 was charged with murder but acquitted after "easing the passing" of several patients.

This states that a doctor may give patient doses of a pain-killing drug that shortens her life, so long as the intention is to relieve pain and suf-fering and not to kill. If the intention were euthanasia, the doctor could face a murder charge.

The doctrine was revisited three years ago by the House of Lords ittee on medical ethics, which stated that drugs could be given to relieve "pain and distress".

The question in Ms Lindsell's case was whether this covered the the misery in which several friends with the disease ended their lives, and wanted to ensure a peaceful ending for herself, surrounded by her loved ones.

She sought a declaration that her doctor, Simon Holmes, could lawally administer diamorphine when she reached the stage where at empts to swallow caused her to choke, causing her severe mental or physical distress, though not necesarily physical pain.

Ma Lindsell, a former flight attendant who was diagnosed with the is looked after 24 hours a day by her partner of 19 years, Ron Hicks, and a male friend. She was in court in a | practice".

Lord Lester QC, halt the action.

She said later; "All parties before the court, including the Attorney General, agreed that a doctor acting to relieve his patient's mental distress by administering pallative drugs, in the way proposed by [Dr Holmes] with my whole-hearted consent, would be acting lawfully ven though this treatment will robably have the incidental effect of shortening a patient's life."

Lord Lester told Sir Stephen Brown, President of the Family Division, that all of the evidence before the court had established that the course of treatment proposed was in accordance with a "responsible body of good medical

In the light of the evidency Holmes, who had wanted a tree tion from the court that lead lawfully proceed, had my advice agreed he would pro proposed course of treatments the time came".

Dr Holmes' advisers had by concerned because of case in months ago in which doctory said they had helped their pain die were interviewed by police. Ms Lindsell, of Teddington and

west London, nodded and mode "Thank you" after the judge at that he "thoroughly appoint a endorsed" the discontinuance. Sir Stephen said: "I very mi hope that the doctors will led to haps that their attention by

their practice and the law." He hoped doctors would be see sured of the public's great mi

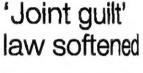
focused on an important get a

'Joint guilt' law softened

terprise" - which led to a teenager being jailed for life for dering a policeman though he w handcuffed and 100 yards away to: the stabbing — was altered last with by five law lords, writes Clan Da.

much-criticised law, which poously said that if two or more pose together took part in a crime activity and one of them killed to others would also be responsible In future, a secondary party v.

should never have been confided The police officer was stablely Paul Weddle, then aged 25, who is a friend of English. The 15 years



THE 500-year-old law of Jointe

The landmark ruling softens

be guilty of murder only if he is saw that the killer might have ended to kill or cause serious land Phillip English's conviction

the murder of Sgt Bill Forth: Cinteshend in March 1993 was the July overturned by the Court of & peal after the law fords ruled that

neisted that he was unaware to Weddle had a knife. The prose tion accepted that this was possible

Derck Bentley was executed to 1953 after being convicted of ac der under the law of joint enterpris



Those boots were made for riding . . . Hunters stand together in Worcester during a meeting to launch the final drive against a ban on fox hunting proposed by the local MP, Mike Foster. Mr Foster's bill is due to receive its second reading on November 28, but the Government has refused to allocate it more than the standard amount of parliamentary time for a private member's bill. It is therefore likely to full prey to filibustering by pro-hunting MPs

New measures to fight racism in police

Duncan Campbell

N EW tests for joining the police are to be introduced to try to increase the numbers of officers from ethnic minorities, the Home Secretary, Jack Straw,

To allow them to be used, the per-The move comes in response son would have to be killed, probaa survey which shows that a bly with a lethal injection. However, canteen culture" still exists in the service and that some The doctors say administering middle-ranking officers are still lethal drug would be more humane reluctant to challenge racist than a long-drawn-out death, and banter".

Many officers from ethnic pinorities felt isolated within the police, the survey found. There was also a high level of

wastage" amongst them. The survey, conducted by Her Majesty's Inspectorate hito police community and race relations, concluded that although much had been achieved by the police in the last decade, some forces and officers were still failing to combat racism as effec-

tively as they could. "There was continuing evidence... of inappropriate lan-guage and behaviour by police officers, but even more worrying was the lack of intervention by sergeants and inspectors," concluded the aurvey.

It visited six forces: Avon and . Bedfordshire, Le tershire, Merseyside, West Midlands and West Yorkshire.

"Potential supervisors demonstrated a reluctance to challenge colleagues who in-dulged in racist 'banter' and racist behaviour," the report

"Many ethnic minority officers felt unsupported by management and were left to rely on support from colleagues of a similar background."

The inspection, led by napector Dan Crompton, found that sergeants were the weakest link in the management of com-munity and race relations.

They were the least likely to understand their responsibilities n this area.

the value of community bear officers, said the HMI report. It recommended that recruitment should "test individuals' itiltudes towards race and

Mr Straw announced that a re vised recruitment test would be introduced in January. It would emove phrases or wording frequently found by ethnic minority candidates to be open to misunderstanding, a Home Office spokeswoman said.

There will also be a task force

and a national conference in one

year's time dealing with recruit-

ment and retention of black and Asian officers. Inspector Paul Wilson, chairnan of the Black Police Association, said it welcomed the report but added: "Policy alone is ineffective. We need not only commitment from our

eadership but also action." David Blakey, president of the Association of Chief Police Forces also failed to recognise: | Officers and chief constable of ...

West Mercia, said the issue raised were of the "utmost in There are 2,319 blackand

Asian officers, accounting to 1.82 per cent of the police set vice, compared with 6 per cen of the total population. In 1981 the figure was 339. There per 125 recruits in 1996/7, total recruits.

Police officers in Leicester shire and Merseyside have be required to leave the service recently, following racially offensive behaviour, the H report stated. " Detective Constable Wendy

Richardson of Thames Valley police, who was awarded £9,000 in damages at an inde-trial tribunal after suffering racial shuse from another detective, said that she ho that her success would send message" to other officers ha they could bring such an sch and succeed. She was referri to as a "nigger" and a "coor while she was on a training course with an officer from another force and and and

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GUARDIAN WEEKL' November 9 1997

Dominique Gallois

aris for several days.

gement team had flown secretly to

Congo after the victory of Sassou-

Iguesso's Cobra militia, while oth-

rs were convinced the team was

still in Paris monitoring operations

y telephone on an hour-by-hour

This was the second time in the

past few months that Elf had to

reveal its chairman's schedule in

Africa. On June 12, it was forced to

admit that he had met President

Omar Bongo of Gabon and that they

had become reconciled after severa

charges from its competitors that it

had colluded with the regimes of

countries where it was well estab-

But reputations and mindsets are

not easily changed. "It's time you

stopped behaving like French am-

assadora and getting involved in

omestic politics. Just act like in-

nonths of strained relations.

Side-stepping Saddam's ploys

SEVERAL important points in the new crisis with Iraq have been clarified over the past few days: the problem is that they do not yet add up to a solution. First, there is a clear understanding on the Western side that this has to be resolved by diplomatic means: a delegation from the United Nations secretary-general, Kofi Annan, was on its way to Baghdad on Tuesday. Though the United States still reserves the right to take unilateral action, it has no appetite to do so. Second, Saddam Hussein himself has called for "dialogue to put things in order and on their right track". This sounds a bit more positive, even though he is a past master at procrastination. Third, although there are differences between UN Security Council members on how to deal with President Saddam, no one disputes that he is in violation of its resolutions and that the purpose of the UN delegation is not to force concessions but to secure compliance.

The fact that the Iraqi regime has not fully com-plied with UN resolutions calling for elimination of its weapons of mass destruction capacity needs to be underlined. There are certain issues where Iraq has been able to make some sort of case, but this is not one of them. The legality of the no-fly zones may be extremely dubious. The delay in reaching the oilfor-food arrangement last year was rightly criticised for punishing the innocent in Iraq most in need of food and medical relief. Threats to take unilateral military action against Baghdad are contrary to the spirit of collective decision-making under the Security Council. But Imq's persistent twisting and turning to avoid full compliance with the UN Special Commission is a matter of record - much of it confirmed by Baghdad's own (belated) admissions. It took five years for Iraq to provide the Commission with what it stated to be a full, final and complete disclosure of its work in the chemical, biological and missile fields. Even now, work is continuing to update these disclosures. Baghdad denied having an offensive biological weapons programme until 1995, when it admitted having previously concealed important elements of such a programme. It is not necessary to believe the more hard stories about what Baghdad allegedly still conceals: what has been discovered is bad enough.

It is true that other countries are not required to make any kind of disclosure - elsewhere in the Middle East, Israel is the glaring example. But President Saddam brought this on Iraq by his act of folly, and the clock cannot be turned back, It may be true that some of the relatively small number of Americans working with the Commission are intelligence agents: the "first-class professional support" that Bill Clinton says the US is providing could well include some real "professionals". If so, Washington would be well advised to replace them by non-intelligence experts. Britain should add its voice to ensure that unity is maintained within the Security Council: this will not be achieved either by brandishing weapons or compromising too for.

The curse of child labour

ANY CHILDREN help out in the shop or on ill effects. But the problem of child labour raised at the international conference in Oslo last week is of a totally different order. Unicef believes that more than a quarter of a billion children around the world between the ages of 5 and 14 are involved. Nearly half are working full-time, many are compelled to do dangerous or dirty work, and a majority are denied access to education. It is not much of an advertisement for a world that proclaims high ideals for the new millennium.

The grant to Save the Children announced last week by the UK's International Development Secretary, Clare Short, addresses a small part of the problem in one of its most extreme forms bondage labour. The aim is to provide opportunities for up to 7.000 Pakistani children in the Punjabi town of Sialkot to shift away from their work sewing leather footballs destined for Britain. The International Federation of Football Associations (Fifa) has helped secure an agreement with world sporting industries to forgo supplies of footballs produced with child labour. Local schooling will be | not an American atrocity, but a fair trial that ended expanded to accommodate the children: efforts will I in a verdict that may have gone wrong.

be made to make up the shortfall in family incomes, partly by organising workshops where women can do the sewing instead. All of this underlines the point — atressed by Unicef's director, Carol Bellamy — that tackling child labour requires not only laws (which are often in place) but resources.
Unicef and the International Labour Organisation

warn against oversimplified generalisations about child labour. There is a lack of reliable and comparable statistics, and those that are produced may exclude whole categories of working children in "traditional" sectors. It is not even clear whether the trend is upwards or down. There is some evidence of a decline in Asia as living standards rise, while numbers have increased in Africa under multiple social and economic pressures. Absolute numbers are rising because population is increasing.

Education emerges as the most important factor. schooling has to be available at least at the primary level, with funding to compensate families that are dependent upon child income for allowing their children to attend. And education has to be free - many children work simply in order to support themselves or their siblings at school. Where the drop-

out rate is low then the child labour rate is also low. International trade is not the main factor behind child labour. Unicef estimates that less than 5 per cent around the world are engaged in export production. But successful action in this area could provide help to devise remedial models that can then be applied in the domestic sector. Child labour is found in developed countries too, particularly among immigrants, minorities and the new poor, and to no one's surprise is on the rise in central and eastern Europe. We have a special responsibility in tackling child labour in its most extreme forms. These include child prostitution, which is closely linked to the international tourist sex market, and the phenomenon of child soldiers in conflicts that the international community has failed to prevent. To regard the exploitation of the young in my form as a fact of life is simply unacceptable.

Tough justice in Massachusetts

THE reaction in Britain to Louise Woodward's murder conviction in a Massachusetts court suggests that her parents are not suffering alone. Woodward's friends in the town of Elton, Cheshire, have launched a campaign demanding justice for the 19-year-old, and phone-in shows were buzzing in agreement. Such an outburst of emotion is wholly inderstandable from Woodward's family und friends. But among those with no direct stake in the story of the au pair and the baby who died on her watch, cooler heads should prevail.

A useful start would be to drop the current presumption that British justice is inherently superior to any legal system abroad. Maybe British courts are preferable to those in Saudi Arabia, but Massachusetts is not in the Dark Ages. The United States is a society built on the rule of law, much of it drawn from Britain. Besides, a nation that has seen overturned convictions of the Birmingham Six, Guildford Four and Bridgwater Four is in no posi-tion to boast of unblemished superiority in the justice department. Nor is it right to say that Woodward was denied a fair trial. For three weeks her case was put by Barry Scheck, one of the most aggressive, highly rated defence lawyers in the US. The jurors clearly took their duty seriously; they weighed the servers thought Woodward would be acquitted, there was no talk of mistrial. It was the verdict they

did not like, not the proceedings that led to it.

People have complained about trial by television. In fact, one of the few drawbacks of cameras in the courtroom is the tendency of TV viewers to believe they are as qualified to judge a case as the jury. Suddenly everyone is an expert, even when few outside the court heard every witness or saw every exhibit. The media circus may be annoying, but it is irrelevant: the jurors were quarantined away, unable to see the TV or read the papers. As for the coverage before the trial - of a type banned in Britain under ever-tighter contempt rules -

most of it was tilted heavily in the au pair's favour. Britons should pause for a moment and wonder how they might have felt if a British couple had lost their baby while in the hands of an American nanny. Would they have sided with the nanny against the couple, regardless of the evidence? Maybe not. The sorry tale of Louise Woodward is

Australia, land of sun surf - and loneliness

Will Hutton

T IS A continent on the other side of the world where British and United States traditions easily commingle. Its cities boast the argest suburbs and its per capita incomes still place it in the first rank of nations, it is a generous and easygoing country, where beach life and surfing are integral to the way of life. But globalisation and free-market individualism have visited contemporary Australia - and the results are increasingly unhappy.

By the standards of economic ra ionalism — the phrase Australians use to describe neo-conservative Thatcherism — the country should be prospering. Inflation is climinated, with price levels falling; taxation and public spending are low; welfare spending is aggressively nomy has been opened up to international competition, liberalisation and privatisation. Yet there is little sense of rising prosperity; rather there is growing anxiety about the country' economic and social future.

Talk to Labor politicians and there is the concern you might expeet about employment, the hollowing out of the economy and growing inequality. But in social policy a new word is entering the vocabulary of preoccupations that is as mexpected as it is original. Australia is becoming a lonely society, they observe, especially in its sprawling hot political issue.

The heart of the problem, as seen by Lindsay Tanner — shadow federal transport minister and tipped as one of the restless Young Turks most likely to succeed to the Labor party leadership — is the way globalisation and market values have upset the fragile economic and social balance on which successful suburban life is wilt. When Australia was growing, its great coastal cities could spread effortlessly outwards, creating the famous individual quarter-acre "block" omplete with a pavilioned bungaow in endless grids of streets. Large employers in city centres and actories in the outer suburbs unterpinned employment, and underwrote community and social life.

But a number of savage trends have undermined this fragile social system. The decline in manufacturng employment is more accombated n Australia, now representing less than 25 per cent of all employment — and even mining and agriculture employ little more than 5 per cent. This is a service economy where intellectual property is more important than large factories, and which has generated no net growth in full-time lobs for nearly a decade. There is the cohort of highly paid workers in the knowledge and information industries - but then there are myriad new, insecure and casualised forms of employment in everything from

tourism to education. But this kind of service-sector employment no longer under writes suburban community. Instead of the systematic and regular patterns of social interaction that accompany regular paid employment and which are the foundations of community, Interaction has become sporadic and intermittent. Worse, for those nied by spells of unemployment, the | should prepare to move to the

new structures reinforce a doc wards spiral not so much in poverty but solitude and depotion. In a market society, pos take a more hard-headed again in when they consider then us cessful; women, for example, les their unemployed or poorly is husbands with rising aggression Thus one of the new phenomen

in the suburbs is the marginish

divorced middle-aged man, ki alone, without the old structurate might have reintegrated his in society. There are few largestic employers, and the old union: nings of suburban life - the di and societies - have been end by the twin effects of erratic pater. of long working hours and the decialising impact of television & suicide rates, except for Xa. Zealand where the same process are more advanced, are the highin the world and growing fast k per cent of young Australians of mit some form of self-harm. There: an upsurge of bullying, stealing vandalism in schools. Whatever's "economic rationalism" has not pe moted much happiness.

Elf is the biggest company in both Congo and Gabon. The pur-THE trends undernining oc munity and neighbourho are pervasive. The seach: pose of such communiqués is to rublic spending cuts, for example normalise, and even play down, relahas intensified the momentum: tions between the French company charge every user of every seniand these countries' government its economic cost — from transp order to counter repeated and, in Western Australia, ever tharges that Elf can make or break some hitherto free beaches. Acre regime in accordance with the to the public goods that lubicar suburban life has become progrerench government's Africa policy. Elf's privatisation in 1994 was prenively more expensive, bearing ented as an opportunity to sever its connections with the French govdown hard on lower income group In short, the cumulative impate rament. It wanted subsequently to globalisation in all its manifestation appear like a normal oil company, from pressure for spending ob omparable in its conduct to other to weakening organised labourrading groups in the sector, though still retaining great influence.
Above all, Elf wanted to duck has been an upsurge in social me ginglisation and sheer lonelines.

In Western Australia, the last of the state's Labor party, Geoff & lop, has made the loneliness min security issue a central feature his party's political positioning the state election last year, he was to make the revival of the submit major plank of policy, an iding that helped him subsequenty si the party leadership language ways of supporting sport, childen and even encouraging researching local community history were part of a package aimed at book! people's sense of belonging capacity to participate in suburb

However innovative such pr grammes, they are stillbom underlying economic irends of on tearing away at the book association and relationship la sponse, Labor is moving leftware both national and state level talk about a more active industrial po strengthening trade unions about the need to relinating structures of Australian capital As it does so, it has taken a bei the polls for the first time sar lost the national election 18 inst ago - with John Howard's in government looking outdated ded to a policy programme might have made sense in the l but not today in a lonelier and to tain Australia, Anstralian positis known to influence Britain Labour - so the message is of

lustrialists," is the message that OCTOBER 27 the

down role in Africa

French oil company Elf Agultaine published a com-His strategy is in line with the foreign policy now pursued by the nunique stating that its chairman, French government, which intends hilippe Jaffré, had gone to Congoto stop becoming involved in con-Brazzaville on October 26 and met flicts in Africa. But once those prinhe victor of the civil war, Denis ciples have been paraded, what assou-Nguesso. This was an effort actually happens may be somewhat clear the air after conflicting different, as the group's new "Mr umours had been circulating in Africa", Jean-François Gavalda, told Le Monde in June. Some claimed the group's man-

"Contacts with heads of state do pend on the size of the country," he said. "In Gabon, which has I million inhabitants, Bongo knows every one. It's only normal he should meet the boss of Elf, the country's largest company. Things are different in Nigeria and Angola, because they are bigger countries. There we tend to deal more with oil minis

Caution is the watchword in the case of any conflict. "When you turn up in a family and two people are fighting among themselves, you mustn't get involved even if you have an opinion about the dispute. Your two friends could well gang up

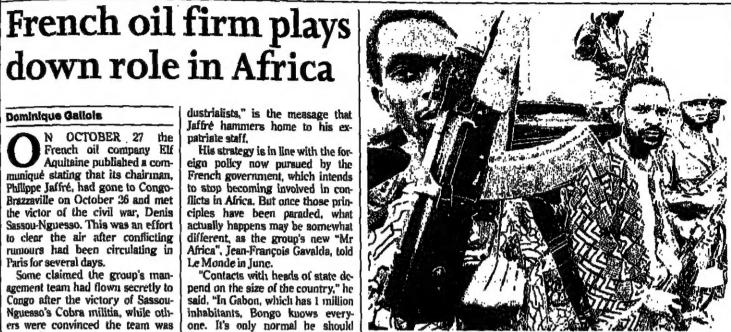
Elf says it adopted a strictly neu tral stance during the civil war in Congo, a country of 2.6 million in habitants and Africa's fourth-largest oil producer — after

Angola and Gabon.

The group repeatedly denied rumours that it was supporting one side or the other, or that it later put its money on the future victor, Sassou-Nguesso. In June, the then president, Pascal Lissouba, in an interview with the French daily Libération, criticised Congo's biggest investor for having made no attempt to stabilise the country.

On October 29, he was more explicit in an interview with Le Figaro: "Sassou-Nguesso apparently promised Elf more advantageous financial terms, at a time when the company needed money to pay for

expensive projects."
Sassou-Nguesso's: return to power is clearly not something that | promising as the Caspian Sea. All



Cobra militiamen at a checkpoint in Brazzaville following victory last month in Congo's civil war

president, from 1979-92, relations between the company and the Marxist-Leninist regime could not have been better. Elf controlled the county's oil industry, the only other group with a finger in the pie being Italy's Agip.

Matters took a turn for the worse when Ussouba came to power, as Elf had supported his predecessor right to the end. Relations cooled when Congo's new president opened up the country's mining sector to the United States group, Occidental Petroleum.

Following that crisis, relations gradually returned to normal, and in the autumn of 1996 Lissouba even took the trouble to inaugurate the Nkossa oil rig. Elf continued to obtain mining permits, but had to resign itself to the arrival of other prospectors, such as the Anglo-Dutch Shell and the American Chevron and Exxon.

Back in power, Sassou-Nguesso faces a totally new ball game in the oil industry. Since the beginning of the 1990s, Africa has ceased to be the preserve of a handful of compa-

The Americans have left home base in search of new oilfields. To them the Gulf of Guinea is as

Elf regrets. During his 13 years as | the major groups are present in the region. Japanese and Australian

Competition is tough. Every possible argument is used in an effort to get an exploration permit. In Angola, whenever oil concessions are auctioned off, Elf's competitors make a point of reminding the government that the French company long supported the Unita rebels.

At the same time, the volume of investment required to explore the sea floor means that companies are forced, paradoxically, both to compete and to co-operate with one another. They compete to become operators, and go into partnership finance projects.

Every form of alliance is possible. and the oilfield map of the region shows a multitude of joint operations. To varying degrees in different countries, political influence is gradually being supplanted by new forms of competition such as technological expertise and financial clout. One of Elf's trump cards is the lead it has in its geological knowledge of the terrain. Its expertise will be a key factor in determining whether it will be able to maintain its strong position in the

'Cheap jobs' proliferate in Germany

Arnaud Leparmentier

HERE is a country in Europe exists and where it is legally possible to work 15 hours a week for a maximum wage of \$340 a month without paying any welfare contribution. No, the country where moonlighting is officially allowed is not Thatcher-blighted Britain but Germany, so often praised for its velfare system and high salaries.

According to the labour ministry 'ever since Bismarck, there has always existed a level below which it has not been necessary to pay pension, sickness or unemployment contributions".

With rising unemployment and prohibitively high contributions dragging down "normal" salaries, the number of such jobs, known as billigjobs (cheap jobs), shot up from 1.4 million in 1992 to 5.6 million in of "normal" jobs went down.

Billigjobs are particularly advan tageous for people who are otherwise covered by social security. such as wives, students looking for holiday jobs, and retired people, but also for the 1.5 million who have two jobs paying 610 deutschnurks (\$340) a month at the same time. Such people are mainly employed by private individuals, but also on a part-time basis by retail outlets, cleaning firms and newspaper delivery services.

For the past few weeks, billigiobs have been roundly criticised by the left wing of the Christian Demo cratic Union (CDU). Norbert Blüm, the employment minister, says billigiobs distort competition between normal companies and those that shirk the duty of solidarity". All sorts of ideas have been aired as to how to deal with the problem among them the reintroduction of welfare contributions and a ban on all moonlighting.

Artisans, employers and the Lib eral party (FDP) — chancellor Helmut Kohl's coalition partner oppose the abolition of such jobs. Guido Westerwelle, the FDP's secretary general , says the root cause of the proliferation of billigiobs, Germany's "excessively high level of taxes and welfare contributions". must be eradicated.

Unlike France, Germany still thinks it faces a problem not of unskilled labour costs, but of labou costs in general, Champions of the social market-economy system continue to believe that, because of the German workforce's high level of skills, it is possible to offer everyone big salaries, even as they are being proved wrong by the craze for billigiobs and rising unemployment.

Wolfgang Schäuble,' Kohl's preferred successor, has taken advan tage of the controversy over billigious to improve his "leftwing" image and ngratiate himself with the opposition Social Democratic Party (SPD)

If at the 1998 elections no single party obtains a majority, a grand coalition would have to be formed between the CDU and the SPD. And even if the CDU performed best at the noti. Kohl would still step down leaving his seat free for Schauble. (October 29)

Jospin's tough approach to law and order

prime minister, Lionel Jospin, is trying to impose on the French left a cultural revolution on the issue of law and order similar to

appeals greatly to the French interior minister, Jean-Pierre Chevenement, who has ong argued that a republic "carries rights with it . . , but also some small duties of which everyone should be reminded". The alogan was adopted by the rench government at a symposium organised by Chevenement in the Paris auburb of Villepinte

on October 24-25, Coming after the announce ment by the education minister,

IT LOOKS very much as if the | Jospin's defence of "the right to security" was a second feather in Chevenement's cap.

> tened with interest Chevenement's suggestions. realism" down to the ground. It is easy to see what has

Claude Allègre, that he intended to reintroduce the teaching of "civic morals" in schools,

It is no coincidence that Chevenement's line of argument has the one Tony Blair engineered in Britain's Labour party.

The Labour slogan Tough on Thus though the two men have their political difference in the control of the control crime, tough on the causes of ences, Jospin has always lisso happens that the interior minister's republican discourse aults the premier's "leftwing

> prompted the government's lurch towards more security-orientated policies. One of Jospin's priorities is to halt the process whereby large sections of the population, particularly the most zeal born of inexperience, which has not been completed. underprivileged, feel they have might prompt it to try to outdo

The situation on suburban

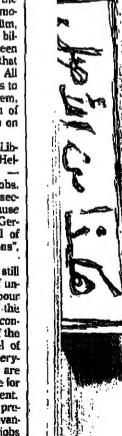
nected with that feeling. Since Jospin has not, at an economic level, abandoned policies that Chevenement sees as having fuelled unemployment and thus worsened the situation in the suburbs, he can do no more than act: whenever he has a chance: to: do so -- on: the one side with the Aubry job-creation scheme, and on the other with a hands-on policy to reduce insecurity and end the total breakdown of law and order in some

Jospin can bardly be criticised

the far right National Front. The previous government did precisely that - and suffered rather than benefited as a result.

It was surprising to hear Chevènement insist so unequivocally on a law-and-order stance. and relegate to second place the need for the police to obey a code of ethics. The new direction embarked on at the Villepinte symposium is bound to trigger much debate among the ruling Socialists. Leftwing elements within the judiciary and even the justice minister, Elisabeth Guigou, expressed reservations, particularly as regards Chevènement's recommended reform of legislation governing juvenile of-

But it is not enough to effirm the prerogatives of the state; the for trying to convince millions of | state itself also needs to be reno-French that the state is at last vated and modernised. In that going to look after them. But the respect, the mountainous task of left should beware of excessive pushing through police reforms



Wolves stir

up a row

Philippe Révil

walves recently.

in the Alps

A RE wolves recolonising to northern French Alps? Ruman:

of this have grown over the paster

months in the departement of

lautes-Alpes and Savole, and inte

Queyras region, where seed

unters claim to have space

Sheep farmers have been thefry

o cry wolf. As their summer seed

the mountains came to an ed

they decided to try to cut the

losses by sleeping near their flots

which roam the high pasture

GUARDIAN WEEKLY

ohn Pomfret and Lena H. Sun

n Cambridge, Massachusetts

HINESE President Jiang

oublic used the words "mis-

takes" and "shortcomings" in re-

sponse to a question at Harvard last

weekend about the 1989 crackdown

on student-led protests around Bei-

The 71-year-old leader did not

epudiate the suppression of the

emonstrations against corruption

and one party rule, and used the terms in an oblique reference to

liananmen. But his remarks after a

speech at Harvard University

weeklong tour of the United States

that Jiang has surprised China

watchers by departing from a for-

nulaic justification of his country's

limits on human rights and political

"It goes without saying that natu-

rally we may have shortcomings

and even make some mistakes in

our work, however we've been

working on a constant basis to im-

prove our work," Jiang said, answer-

ing a question about why the

Communist Party had chosen con-

irontation over dialogue in dealing

The suppression of the student

sit-in on Tiananmen Square left huu-

dreds dead and hundreds more

cither jailed or exiled. The crack-

down badly damayed U.S.-China re-

ations and, more than eight year

ater, cast a shadow over last week's

U.S.-China summit, the first since

1989 and designed by both govern-

ments as an opportunity to outline

common interests and areas of

Jiang's appearance at Harvard

was met by the largest, loudest, and

most emotional protest of his U.S.

visit. As drizzle turned into a chill-

ing rain, a throng of activists chant-

ing slogans for freedom and

democracy in China and Tibet and

Shaine on Harvard" overwhelined

competing group of Chinese

coperation.

with Chinese students in 1989.

marked the second time during a

ing's Tiananmen Square.

Zemin for the first time in

Paris obeys Brussels and turns Loire green

A FTER years of procrastina-Ation, France has finally decided to apply the European Union's environmental legislation to the estuary of the river Loire. With its 40,000 hectares of wetlands, the estuary is regarded by EU experts as an area that has considerable ecological interest beyond France's borders.

In September, the French gov-ernment listed it as a special protection area (SPA) after Brussels, irritated by a 10-year delay, had threatened penalties. It means that, in accordance with the European directives on birds and habitat, no major developments may take place in a 18,700-

hectare zone in the estuary. The decision has delighted environmentalists but has upset

Jean-Luc Einaudi

exposes the deceit of a

man on trial for crimes

that I was twice summoned as a wit-

Papon in Bordeaux. On the first oc-

time as head of the Paris police.

was summoned a second time, on

Algerian demonstrators were killed

by the Paris policel, only three deaths resulted from the demon-

stration, and that the Algerians found dead in the river Seine had

been killed by other Algerians who

were settling scores.

Papon said he had not taken legal

action against my book because he

had not read it, and was therefore un-

what was going on in Paris."

former soldiers and commentators

defence witness, Roger Chaix.

against humanity

those in favour of extending the port installations of Nantes and the neighbouring town of St-

zone, but a strategic economic activity zone," says Alain Mustière, president of Nantes' thorniest problem is the Donges Est site, where there is already a scheme to fill in an area of 150 hectares of wetlands so that new docks can become operational by the time much of the neigh-bouring Montoir docks reaches

be carried through," says Luc Dejoie, the neo-Gaullist president of the Loire-Atlantique regional council. "On an issue as vital as this, a government

Papon's career built on 'a pack of lies'

favour of developing Donges-Est. The Socialist deputy for Loiresame line, pointing out that the project squares with existing government-driven regional development schemes. He says that France is merely required "to inform Brussels of its plans to receive an advisory opinion"

associations and Green party deputies and councillors interpret EU legislation differently. Mireille Ferri, a Green who sits on the Nantes municipal and regional councils, thinks that leading local politicians and estuary technicians have underestimate

developed, Brussels' opinion vill need to be heard," she says. But the government will have to prove that it is a scheme of **major** interest, that there is no iternative solution, and that compensation for any prejudice suffered is provided."

bird species found in the Loire estuary, the European Commission would not be allowed, on habitat, to take up the case plaint by an association or by local elected representatives

"I've been sounding the slamb

around Mont Cenis.

the past few months. But the led logs or waives.

sheen carcasses.'

nble controversy over the present of wolves in the Parc National by Mercantour, in the mount above Nice, where several wolfcub have been born. Once they at weaned, young males are chased of by the dominant male of the pact

grandparents managed to get nid them," says one angry sheep fame.

(October 25)

"The United States, with its | leader. He accused Netanyahu of remendous influence and impact on this area and all the people of the region, and its position in the world, should move from being a messensein said in the interview at Basman Palace, overlooking the c deliver messages from one side to

Police hold back Tibetan protesters outside a New York hotel where

President Jiang was meeting US business leaders PHOTO MIRE SEGAR

Chinese and American flags to tatorship," and "Jiang Zemin Go

another. The comments by Hussein, one of Washington's closest Arab allies. constitute a challenge to Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright, who said during a tour of the region in

September that she will not return until Israel and the Palestinians demonstrate a greater commitment to peace. They also reflect his sense of betrayal: Alone among Arab leaders, and despite intense political opposition at home, Hussein has pursued normal, friendly relations with Israel, with which Jordan made peace in 1994.

In somber and at times despairing tones, Hussein, 61, said he has virtually run out of ideas on how to deal with the right-wing Israeli | nomic conference in the Persian | I don't know where we are."

repeatedly breaching commitments to his Arab negotiating partners and pandering to extremist elements in Israel's body politic. Far from enhancing Israel's security, he said, such tactics are fanning the flames a new "balance of fear" between Israel and hostile neighbors armed

Home!" One protester set a small

Throughout his 45-minute speech

the muffled yells of protesters out-

side filtered into Sanders Theater,

Jiang's statements about Tianan-

men probably do not presage an

immediate change of policy, as the

Chinese government has moved in

recent years to silence political dis-

sent even as it embraces more open

markets. In Beijing, reports earlier

which is part of Memorial Hall.

Chinese flag alight.

with weapons of mass destruction. "It was an act against Jordan itself, its integrity and its sovereignty, and the results were devastating to the trust we had built so far." Husseln said of the September 25 assassination attempt on Meshal,

Hussein cautioned that he is not abandoning Jordan's policy of nor-malization with Israel. The two countries are continuing discussions on issues such as water rights, tourism and trade. The desert kingdom of nearly 45 million people, more than half of them Palestinian, is one of the few Arab states that has committed publicly to sending delegates to a U.S.-sponsored eco- he was particularly close. "But now

any real tangible progress it doesn't mean that we close the doors and go back to square one," he said. But Hussein also made clear that he is increasingly inclined to draw a distinction between Netanyahu and

the Israeli people, a majority of whom he still believes are committed to making peace with the Arabs. "It is a very fair distinction, and it's a very serious distinction in my mind." Hussein said.

Hussein confirmed reports that only two days before the attempt on Meshal's life, he had relayed a message to Israel on behalf of Hamas leaders broaching the possibility of a 10-year moratorium on violence. Netanyahu has defended the attack on Meshal on grounds that Hamas... was behind recent suicide bomb-

ings in Jerusalem. Hussein said the episode has left him at a loss about how to proceed in his relationship with Netanyahu. "In the past I had a partner." he said in reference to Rabin, who was assassinated two years ago and with whom

The Washington Post Jiang Admits Possible Tiananmen Errors | U.S. Seeks

evaluation of the Tiananmen Square

crackdown have not yielded a

change in the government's position

which has termed the demonstra-

lion" and has denied that they were

In a press conference last week in

Washington with President Clinton.

Jiang called the Tiananmen demon-

trations "political disturbances"

and defended the violence against

lemonstrators as "necessary mea-

of Chinese history at Hoston

University, said she found Jiang's

use of the two words - mistakes

and shortcomings — imprece-dented. "The very fact that he ad-

mitted there were problems in the

broader context was very unusual,"

The remarks last Saturday

marked the second time on this trip

that Jiang appears to have broached

publicly subjects that Chinese lead-

ers have considered taboo. On

Thursday last week, for example, in

a speech in Washington, liang pre-dictably defended China's policy in

Tibet, saying people in that troubled

part of China are living "in happi-

But Jiang also said: "We believe

that without democracy, there can

be no modernization." The state-

ment was remarkable, Goldman and

other China watchers have noted.

because it was an echo of assertions

made by China's most famous dissi-

dent, Wei Jingsheng, who was jailed

in 1979 for uttering the same thing.

Wei has spent all but six months of

Steven Mußon in Beijing adds:

China quietly has released updated

information on eight political prison-

ers in response to a campaign by an

American business consultant, John

Kamın, to obtain detalls about their

sentences, alleged crimes, current

health and prison status from

uess and contentment."

the last 18 years in jail.

sures according to the law."

motivated by patriotism.

tions a "counter-revolutionary rebel-**Bradley Graham**

THE United States announced I plans last week to try to boost international spending on efforts to remove land mines by more than 500 percent over the coming decade — to \$1 billion s year - and clear the world of all mines that threaten civilian pop-Still, Merle Goldman, a professor plations by 2010.

\$1bn to Clear

Land Mines

The unilateral initiative is an attempt by the Clinton administration to reassert a leading role in anti-mine activities after its controversial decision in September not to join scores of other nations in an agreement o ban land mines. Anti-mine activists welcomed the move. but cautioned that added money nione would not ensure faster progress in the task of locating and removing an estimated 100 million mines in more than 60 countries.

Outlining the plan at a news conference, Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright said the United States intended to double its own spending on mine-clearing — to \$77 million next year - and would persuade foreign governments, international financial organizations and other public and private sources to reach the new program's ambitious goal. To this end, the Clinton administration intends to host a donors' conference in Washington next

While the focus of a growing international anti-mine movement has been on banning such weapons altogether, Albright suggested the emphasis should be on eliminating mines already in place, many of them left over from long-ago conflicts in poor countries

"This call for a concerted effort by the international community is based on the premise that the best way to protect civilians from land mines is to pull mines from the soil like the noxious weeds that they are,"

Much of the existing interational mine-clearing effort has remained loosely coordinated at best, and, as Albright noted, "the most common tool we have for detecting land minea son's arm."

But administration officials involved in drafting the initiative acknowledged that it was developed quickly over the past few weeks, with many details still to come. They could offer no specific projections about U.S. spending on mine-clearing beyond the fiscal year 1998 and said discussions with other potential key donor nations were fust beginning.

target was chosen, Karl F. Inderfurth, the State Department official named to coordinate the initiative, suggested it was more an attention-getting device than any firm calculation of the true cost of clearing the world of mines.

Nozaire. "The estuary is not a green chamber of commerce. The

> saturation point in 2005. The Donges-Est development has been scheduled and must

wants to do in its own country, The mayors of St-Nazaire and Nantes bave also come out in

> Atlantique, Claude Evin, toes the **Environmental** protection

the powers of EU legislation.

"Before Donges-Est can be

Given the number of protected under the terms of the directive itself if a development were to go ahead against its will. But a comwould enable it to refer the case to the European Court of Justice.

"Of course a complaint would e lodged if Donges-Est were developed," says Ferri, "And if France were condemned, EU aid to the estuary would be frozen."

three years," says Jean Blanc, t farmers' leader in the Haute-Maus' came area and president of the Boneval-sur-Arc lunting association Savoyard sheep farmers estime

that 150 sheep, ewes and goatsha been killed or have disappeared: authorities claim the death toll's much lower: they say 17 minds bave been attacked by either stay

The presence of wolves has as een confirmed by local nature wa dens, "It's probable but not certain" says Cyrille Van Effenterre, directs of agriculture and forests in Savor. "We have found traces of a lang member of the Cavidae family, which could be a wolf. We're currently analysing pawprints at

However, the local authorities argue that even if there is no confe mation in the near future of the presence of wolves, the animals of turn up eventually, and local inhalitants should be prepared. The mm ber of wolves, which are protected by the 1979 Herne Convention is growing in western Europe. There are thought to be 450 in flaly ad: 2,500 in Spain and Portugal.

The animals can travel great de ances and are not held up by such natural barriers as the Alps or the Pyrenees. There has been consider.

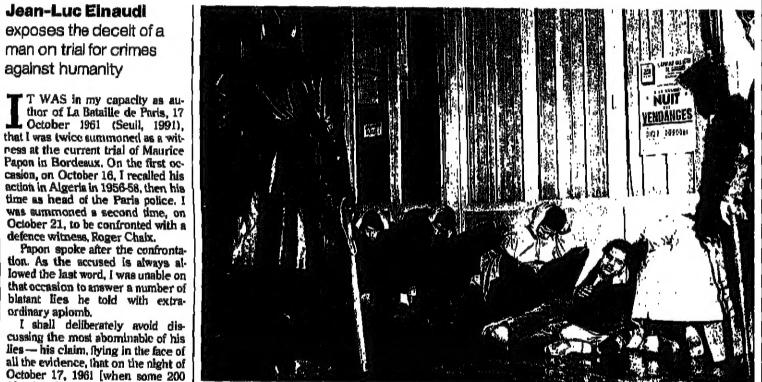
and have to find new territory. But while humans are afraid of wolves, wolves are much mor afraid of human beings. The animal are extremely wary but are easily at

tracted by slicep, a favourite prey. "They're allowing wolves to get " tablished on our land, where

There are no plans to reintry duce this predator," says Emman de Guillebon, director of the Parck la Vanoise in Savoie, and preside of the association of national talk directors. Although he admits wolves wreak havoc among in tended flocks of sheep, he that that they are, above all, "a seek source of fantasies".

Le Monde

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Police arrest Algerians in Puteaux, west of Paris, in October 1961. Up to 200 Algerian demonstrators were killed while Papon was Parls police chief in 1961. The official figure was three deaths

scribed what really happened on

In giving evidence, I reminded the court that at a Paris city council meeting of October 27, 1961, Papon failed to answer some very specific

questions posed by Claude Bourdet. They included: "Is it true that a aware of its contents. He added that he now regretted not having sued. great number of wounded and dead But in October 1991, a month after were hit by bullets of the same callthe book came out, Jean-Pierre Elkabbre, made by a leading manufacturer olies the police with amount sion and, at one point, disagreeing nition? That a large number of those with his version of the facts, said: "In bullets were fired at point-blank Jean-Luc Einaudi's very interesting range? Is it true that some 50 book ... there are both documents demonstrators apparently arrested and an hour-by-hour description of in the Boulevard St-Michel area died at police headquarters? Is it true that Papon retorted: "Yes, but there's many bodies were fished out of the another very interesting book." And Seine? In press circles . . . there has he proffered his own book, Les been talk of 150 bodies being fished out of the water between Paris and

Chevaux du Pouvoir. At the end of the programme Elkabbach said to Rouen: Is that true?" In the course of his long speech Papon: "I'll give you Einaudi's book in case you haven't read it yet." before the Bordeaux court, Papon Papon replied: "I have it." brandished a text which he said was He had known my book and its a last-minute piece of evidence. And he claimed that, contrary to what I contents for six years. If he did not take legal action . . . it was simply had said, he had proof that he had answered Bourdet's questions. But because he feared the consethe document was in fact no more quences of a court case where witnesses, victims, former policemen, than the text of his own speech be-

answer to Bourdet's questions. What he did say then was: "The Paris police simply did what it had to do."

Earlier, Papon had already tried to pull the wool over the court's eyes by stating, through his lawyer, that he had taken action against Bourdet for his remarks and won his case. While it is true that he took action against Bourdet, it was not over his accusatory questions, but over his remark that "from 1956 to 1958 in Constantine he was one of the most feroclous architects of repression". The case against Bourdet, sued for "insulting a civil servant", was dis-

missed in February 1964. Papon claims that a former leader of the French federation of the Algerian National Liberation Front (FLN), All Haroun, paid tribute to him in a book — a fact that would have given him the image of a respected enemy and certainly not someone capable of giving orders to murderers of Algerians. The book, La 7ème Wilaya, came out in 1986. contrary, it is a scathing indictment

Papon responsible. When he referred to the number fore the Paris city council on Octo- of victims on October 17, 1961, would have taken the stand and de- | ber 27, 1961, which contained no | Papon persisted in sticking to the

of crimes for which Haroun holds

earlier. One of them, he said, was a Frenchman, whose heart gave out under the shock and whose postmortem revealed him to be suffering from a heart complaint.

The brief extract from the Paris public prosecutor's archives published by the daily Libération last week confirms that the man concerned, Guy Chevalier, died as a result not of a heart attack but voluntary manslaughter.

These are just some of the cases where Papon has been caught lying blatantly, putting forward his version of the facts with great selfassurance, as though it were the gospel truth.

I recoil with horror as I think of all those years when a much younger Papon held a position of great responsibility that relied heavily on lies. I recall the remark he made at Montrouge police station on October 2, 1961: "When you tell headquarters that a North African It contains no such tribute. On the | has been shot dead, the superintendent who visits the scene must take steps to ensure that the North African was carrying a gun." That is

what Papon used to describe as

(October 25)

"subversive warfare".

Hussein Says Netanyahu Betrayed Trust

velcome the Chinese leader.

Although protests have shad-

owed Jiang at every stop, he had been well shielded from demonstra-

tors before last Saturday. As his

motorcade of black limousines arrived outside Memorial Hall on the

Parvard campus, Jiang came within

few yards of several hundred

lemonstrators. He was confronted

by huge white and black "Free

Tibet" banners and Chinese dissi-

dents bellowing in Mandarin over

John Lancaster in Amman

ING Hussein of Jordan, infuri-Lated by the recent Israeli attempt to kill a political leader of the militant Islamic group Hamas here, ger to being actively involved," Hussays that his trust in Israeli Prime ter Benjamin Netanyahu has all but evaporated and that only a just cannot carry on continuing to much more vigorous diplomatic effort by the United States can prevent the collapse of Arab-Israeli

peace negotiations. In an interview last week, the ordanian monarch accused Netanyahu of repeatedly betraying him, most recently and most audaciously y dispatching Mossad secret service assassins on a botched mission to poison a Hamas politburo member, Khaled Mehal, in Amman in

Hussein also faulted the United States for the deterioration in Arab-Israeli relations, urging Washington to play a much more active role in pressing Israel to abandon policles such as building settlements in the West Bank — that he says are pushing the region toward an "explosion."

a Jordanian citizen.

China's secretive jail system. Three of the eight have had their loudspeakers, "Down with Jiang this year that some Communist Zemin," "Down with One Party Dicsentences slightly reduced; one was Gulf state of Qatar next month. Israel also will attend. "If we cannot in certain areas see

she said.

Asked how the \$1 billion



6 840 1 8 8 8 9 9

Sever Criminal Links, Japan Bosses Told

Sandra Sugawara in Tokyo

N EXTRAORDINARY meet-A ing was due to take place this week at the Tokyo headquarters of the Keidanren, the voice of Big Business in Japan. Hundreds of captains of industry were planning to gather in a large conference room on the 12th floor to hear Shoichiro Toyoda, the 72year-old chairman of Toyota Motor Corp., ask them to cut their ties to the Japanese underworld once and

prosecutors are intensifying an assault against the many corporations that pay off extortionists known as

The list of companies already caught in the investigation reads like a Who's Who of corporate Japan. This year, authorities have arrested senior-level executives at Mitaubishi Motor Corp., Matauzakaya department store, Nomura Securities, Nikko Securities Co., Bank Ltd. and the Ajinomoto food product company.

Numerous other corporations are under investigation, according to media reports, including Mitsubishi Electric Corp., Toshiba Corp., Hitachi Ltd., and Asahi Bank.

Japan has a reputation as the world's premier low-crime society. But in many communities, organized criminals operate. Gangsters The message from Toyoda, who heads the Keidanren, is in part an appeal to self-interest. The gathering has been called as inverse. run prostitution, drug and protec-

The criminals who target the corporate world take advantage of Japanese society's dictum to preserve order at all costs. Typically, they threaten to disclose unflattering information about a company at a shareholders' meeting or in a newsletter, or even on the Internet. For years, companies have treated payments to buy silence as a routine cost of doing business.

Yamaichi Securities Co., Daiwa questions at a shareholder meeting Securities Co., Dal-Ichi Kangyo is footage on the evening news of is footage on the evening news of authorities raiding a corporate head-

"Many top executives are at loss," said Hideaki Kubori, a Tokyo attorney who specializes in fighting sokaiya. "The investigations are spreading quickly to different industries and the management doesn't

understand what it means." Some executives, however, have decided it means they have to make a clean break, About 1,200 Japanese companies have so far declared that they have severed ties with sokaiya, Tokyo police announced last

Kubori said the government has made previous attempts to rid the corporate world of sokalya, but that this time it is different. He said an aggressive group of prosecutors has taken charge of the investigations since the arrest in May of a sokalya with alleged ties to Nomura Securities.

"They thought it was not good for spanese capitalism that the core of ts business practices is corrupted

Many government officials, including Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto, realize that this type of corruption must be wiped out it Japan's economy is truly to open to the world, said one Japanese analyst, Patterns of hidden extortion payments prevent the kind of truth-

investors increasingly demand in narkets where they put their Because such payments are illegal — both for companies and the mobsters — the payments are often disguised. For instance, police allege that Mitsubishi Motor and ther companies paid more than \$75,000 to a company run by a

sokaiya's wife, supposedly for the

financial disclosure that global

use of a beach house. With the public subjected to a steady stream of news stories about investigations and raids at some of Japan's best known and respected companies, the government has been pushed to act as well. The cabinet recently endorsed and forwarded to the Diet proposals to strengthen punishment for these

Christians Failed Jews, Pope Says

Lee Hockstader in Rome

OPE John Paul II last week condemned the actions of many Christians before and during the Holocaust, tellings shows into India in 1991, breaking a Vatican conference that the government monopoly on the small Christian world contributed to screen, foreign ownership of satellite TV networks was unrestricted. Murthe rise of anti-Semitism and then failed to fight it as Jews doch led a boom in the broadcasting were being slaughtered during market and now owns an interest in World War II. six channels available in India.

But while the pope's statement was his strongest on the subject to date, he stopped short of issuing an apology for alleged actions or inactions of the year, a draft of comprehensive broadcasting legislation set a limit on the share of channels that can be church or those of his contract sial wartime predecessor, Pope Pius XII. Some Jewish groups have demanded an apologym 49 percent. Some lawmakers across criticized the Vatican for falling the political spectrum have pushed to come to terms fully with its

fora complete ban. India has made a similar reversal "In the Christian world-I on civil aviation. Following a 1993 am not saying on the part of the court decision overturning the 40church as such - the wrong and year monopoly of the state-owned unjust interpretations of the New domestic airline, the government let Testament relating to the Jewish two Persian Gulf airlines own a contpeople and their supposed guil [in Christ's death] circulated for bined 40 percent stake in what has become the nation's most successtoo long, engendering sent-ments of hostility toward this people," said the 77-year-old ful private carrier. But under a new policy adopted this year, Kuwait Airlines and Gulf Air will have to divest their holdings

"This contributed to a lulling of consciences, so that when Europe was engulfed by a wave of persecutions inspired by a page nation anti-Semitism . . . the spiritual resistance of many was not what humanity had a right's expect from the disciples of allow foreign investors to own as

The remarks by the pope, & livered in French at a Voticas symposium on the roots of sub-Semitism in Christian teaching since the time of Christ, were blunt by the Vatican's standards Until the 1960s, the idea of Jewish guilt for the death of Christ was accepted by the church. Although that concept has since been repudiated, it wasn't until today that the Vatican has specifically associated it with the rise of Hitler. "This is probably the [popel)

elegrest acknowledgment of the role of bad Christian teachings . . . in paving the way for the success of the Nazis and anti-Semitism," said Eugene Reter, an ecumenical specialist of the U.S. National Conference of

Catholic Bishops in Washington But to some Jewish organizations, the pontiff's comments, enough. They criticized the post Stales, india's biggest trading part-for failing to lay out fully the value. can's World War II shortcoming reviving a post-war historical debate that has never really been resolved. The Vatican remained

foreigners, the way they have capbured our industry is enough to hang our heads in shame . . . The country compromising its sovereignty."
What is it that has bred so much stion of immense proportions, one with extensive natural resources, there skilled technicians than any the church got the message and the church got the message and the capacity to make nuclear apons and one of the world's Argest armies?

Kenneth J. Cooper in New Delhi In the opinion of the two finance ministers who have guided the eco-nomic changes, India remains THEN MEDIA baron Rupert Murdoch beamed haunted by the British East India Company. There is a recurrent nightthe first private television mare that wily foreigners will come here under the guise of commerce but take control as exploitive rulers
— just as the British did when they came to trade in 1609 but did not leave until 1947. Many older Indians also have difficulty breaking a habit But a new coalition government is of mind formed during decades of Soviet-style central planning — the idea that terrible disruptions will moving to cap ownership by the brash Australian American and other foreign broadcasters. Last occur if government does not control every aspect of the economy.

Open and Shut Case

On Foreign Funds

foreign-owned at 25 percent; the pro-

posed limit has since been raised to

ia Jet Airways, and Singapore Air-

lines will not be permitted to join

India's oldest and largest industrial

conglomerate in financing a new airline. The current policy of Prime Minister I.K. Gujral's Cabinet does

much as 40 percent of a domestic

carrier — as long as those investors

In the six years since India offi-

cially abandoned a socialist path and

opened its door wider to private capi-

tal from abroad, that door has

creaked back and forth in the politi-

cal gusts blowing here in the capital,

producing inconsistent policies that

have bewildered prospective in

vestors from India and abroad. Judg-

ing from emotional parliamentary

debates on foreign investment, dur-

ing which distressed critics have

arned that an influx of international

capital will put India's sovereignty

eties have gripped this nation of 950

ailion and stalled economic change.

The amount of direct investment

that has stirred those fears is rela-

lively low. In each of the last six

years, less than \$2.5 billion from

abroad has flowed into a \$1 trillion

economy. Still, xenophobia has been

directed at multinational companies,

everything to the multinational com-

Panies." Chandra Shekhar, a former

prime minister, warned Parliament

capital of the country has been sold

August. 'The way the [financial]

and security at risk, a million anxi-

are not other airlines.

'These are all imaginary fears, a byproduct of the old command type of economy, the Soviet type of thinking," Manmohan Singh said last year just before leaving the finance minis-ter's post. "But I think over a period of time, as our people get more self confidence, this fear will disappear."

Guiral, as foreign minister last year, urged formulation of an economic strategy suited to India's circumstances, just as neighboring China made its way into the globa market with its own brand of capitalism. But since becoming prime minister in April, Guiral has not outlined

a distinctive Indian strategy.
Finance Minister P. Chidambaram, asked to describe the government's strategy for attracting and deploying foreign investment, responded instead with a lengthy recitation of bureaucratic procedures for reviewing such proposals, giving the impression that parliamentary ambushes have out him on the defensive. "There are enough checks and balances to ensure that foreign investment does not affect India's national interests and is channelized into core areas of the economy," said Chidambaram, a self-siyled reformer who graduated from Harvard Business School.

N AUGUST, when support for legislation to enable private in-L surers to compete with government companies collapsed before a scheduled vote in Parliament, Gujral angrily withdrew the proposal. Critics had called for an amendment to bar foreign insurers from India even though its nationalized companies do business in several other countries. Pramod Mahajan, a senior leader of the Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), said he opposes the entry of foreign in surers because it would put Indian capital - the premiums collected -- "into foreign hands."

But an American analyst said the share of premiums be invested i India. "It's a game you could play to Slowly, you are giving away your advantage," the analyst said. India was thought to have

reached a political consensus in favor of foreign investment except in consumer goods, but that consensus has apparently broken down since the defeat of the Congress party government of Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao last year. It was Rao, confronted with a shortage of foreign currency to pay for essential imports in 1991, who opened the economy wider to trade and foreign investment. Since then, many American companies have shown interest in selling their products to India's

middle class of 250 million. But disagreements about foreign investment have emerged; among



partners in the 13-party coalition that formed the last two governments. The coalition's shakiness has also created opportunities for other parties to score political points by appealing to nationalistic sentiments. At times, this approach has been taken by both the BJP, the main opposi tion party, and the Congress party, which helped vote Gujral to power

and, before him, H.D. Deve Gowda. The voices of anxiety roared during Parliament's recent debate on the state of the nation after a half-

Sushma Swaraj, a BJP leader, ac-

the nation's youth with high paying jobs, luring them away from careers in the military, medicine and engineering. This is bad for the country," she said. Ashok Mitra, a Communist, op-

cused foreign companies of spoiling

posed "infiltration" of foreign companies into India's banking sector and accused reformers such as Single and Chidambaram of "yearsing to return to the non-freedom we had 50 years ago."

With few exceptions, since 1955 India has prohibited foreign compa-

"On one hand, they say no to foreign media in print. On the other hand, they allow foreign media to invest in electronic media here," complained Aveck Sarcar, a Calcutta nublisher:

V.N. Gadgil, a former information and broadcasting minister, would make the government's media policy more consistent by also banning oreign ownership of TV channels. which he accused of alienating young Indians from their cultural routs. "All they do is watch MIN [and buy] jeans. Coca-Cola, ham nies from owning an interest in peri-1 burgers," he said.

A Man With Madness in His Method

OPINION Richard Cohen

THE MAYOR of New York is a L touch mad. He is a bundle of petulance and grievances, a workaholic who, like the city itself, seems never to sleep. New Yorkers can go to bed assured that Rudolph Giuliani will not. He is out there, in Gotham, chasing down the bad guys — and they include, of course, his political foes.

One of them is his Democratic opponent, Ruth Messinger. She trails Giuliani in every published poll and, most important, in the conversations of every New Yorker 1 know. Her voters must live in some

And yet when Messinger stated a fact about the mayor's re-election campaign - that it has had to return an astounding amount of money collected illegally - Giuliani turned on her with such ferocity that traffic stopped all over the city, birds dropped from the sky and peacekeepers were alerted at the nearby United Nations.

For merely raising the financing issue, Giuliani virtually accused Messinger of being anti-Italian this because she had not marched the entire route of the Columbus Day parade. Not only that, Giuliani added, she had also skipped a Columbus Day mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral, making her by implica-tion (1) anti-Italian, (2) anti-Catholic and, because the late Mr. Columbus had discovered America, (3) anti-American as well.

A day later, Giuliani apologized.

Over the summer came another incident. Giuliani refused to give the keynote speech for the opening of the new Arthur Ashe Stadium for tennis. Not only that, he wouldn't go near the place. This was because the previous mayor, David Dinkins, had agreed to give the U.S. Tennis Association \$325,000 every time a better than any single government plane flew over the prestigious U.S. | program, no matter how needed. | true, of course, that crime has fallen | has a quality they seek.

Open. As a result, the planes are | Everything about him strongly sug- | almost everywhere, but nowhere as rerouted - over vast neighborhoods of people who, as luck would have it, don't play tennis but do vote. This was good politics on Giuliani's part but it was not why he did it. He | priesthood which once so attracted did it because that's who he is.

guarantee his re-election on Tuesday as mayor of New York

Now, I use the word "mad" a bit tell you, engaged in a fight against expansively and with the pundit's evil itself. expansively and with the pundit's version of poetic license. Still, there is nary a person in this very tough and totally jaded town who would enjoy a predawn stroll through the mayor's psyche. It is a dark repository, I would guess, of mortal enemies and passionate grievances. These include certain special interests, the criminal class and — at the moment -- anyone who questions the unquestionable purity of the mayor and his methods. These people should --- at the least --- be

exiled to "Joisey." It is this quality - a Vesuvian temperament and a hot hate for the bad guys — that has served Giuliani

gests that he is not in politics for any specific program, or any ideological reason, but because he sees

So far, the mayor has banished the pesky and, sometimes, menacing squeegee men from the streets. He has also taken on the mob, tossing it out of the Fulton Fish Market and even from Little Italy's San Gennaro Festival. As for crime in gen-eral, he has loosed the fateful lightning of the NYPD on punks the little stuff before it could be-

come the big stuff. The results have been virtually miraculous. It's the 1950s and '60s all starkly as in New York City.

No doubt a price has been paid Here and there a complaint is heard it as the secular equivalent of the that the police are less civil than him. He is, as any New Yorker can willing to stop a person based on race or age. But even when a Haitian immigrant was allegedly — and unspeakably --- tortured in a Brooklyn police station, no one yelled for Giuliani's head. Much of New York seemed to think it was better to have a few innocent victims of the police than many innocent victims

It happens that crime began decreasing under Dinkins. Yet it was large-and-small, concentrating-on- Giuliani, much-more than Dinkins or the hapless Messinger, who personifies what New York in general feels — a rage at the way things used to be and a determination that, over again - but with cable TV, yet. | almost no matter what, the streets Murder has fallen 56 percent since | remain safe. Once it seemed a mad 1990, its peak year, and this year could be even better than last. It's New Yorkers sent for Giuliani. He

The legendary popularity of Rudy Giuliani, the man who cleaned up the capital of crime, should

neutral during the conflict. "The statement is a breath of

fresh air in what has been dismal record of the church's failure to say these things open and honestly," said Rabbi Marin Hier, founder of the Simon Wie enthal Center in Los Angeles, He added, however, that a papal apology would be useful as lesson to future generations i the church got the message and everyone has to assume responsibility and no one is above the spiritual or legal law."

century of independence.

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GW13 Hightand Hamper 114g Sliced Smoked Scottish Salmon, 250g Mull of Kintyre Mature Cheddar Cheese, 250g Walkers Cocktail Oatcakes, 200g Patersons Luxury Milk Chocolate Shortbread, 227g Arran Strawberry & Rosehip Preserve, 227g Arran Mandarin Marmalade with £30.50 Packed in a palm leaf basket.

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GW15 The Strand 400g Beaverlac Traditional Dundee Cake, 375g Beaverlac Old English Christmas Pudding, 6 Butter Mince Pies with Beamish Stout, 198g Derwent Cooked Ham, 198g Derwent Turkey Roll, 425g Baxters Chicken Broth, 410g Epicure Peach Slices, 340g Hartleys Black Cherry Jam, 454g Roses Orange & Lemon Marmalade, 100g Dry Roasted Peanuts, 200g Sherriffs Chocolate Chip & Hazelnut Biscuits, 150g Patersons Shortbread Petticoat Tails, 130g Cadburys Roses Chocolates and 200g Plasten Exclusive Chocolates.

GW16 Yuletide Fare 400g Beaverlac Royal Iced Greetings Cake, 375g Beaverlac Old English Christmas Pudding, 454g Derwent Cooked Ham, 198g Derwent Turkey Roll, 43g Epicure Dressed Crab, 198g Epicure Tuna in Cil, 80g Jensens Liver Pate, 425g Baxters Cream of Tomato Soup, 397g Epicure Petits Pois, 540g Princes New Potatoes, 410g Epicure Peach Slices, 410g Hartleys Mincemeat, 340g Hartleys Black Cherry Jam, 454g Roses Orange & Lemon Marmalade, 200g Double Gloucester Cheese, 200g McVities Savoury Cheese Biscults, 100g Dry Roasted Peanuts, 150g Patersons Shortbread, 100g Whittakers Chocolate Mint Cremes and 200g Piasten Exclusive Chocolates.

GW17 Christmas Gift Box A bottle Chateau Haut Pougnan Bordeaux Superieur 1995, a bottle Muscadet de Sevre et Maine 1995, 170g Fine Blue Stilton Cheese in a Ceramic Jar. 200g Red Leicester Cheese, 125g Bizac Quail Pate with Juniper, 300g Walkers Fine Oatcakes, 450g Coles Christmas Pudding with Suffolk Ale, 100g Tracklements Brandy Butter, 340g English Provender Strawberry & Champagne Preserve, 125g H R Higgins Tanzanian Coffee, 110g Mixed Nuts, 200g Patersons Luxury Milk
Chocolate Shortbread, 400g Walkers Scottish Fruit
Cake, 12 Fudges Clocktall Mince Pies and 200g Luxury
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Farrar Straus Giroux, 266pp. \$23. HE CRYSTAL FRONTIER emerges from nine stories as a loosely structured political novel concerned with the unever and painful meshing of two North American cultures which catch at each other like warped gears forced to engage solely by the circumstance of inescapable physical contact. The crystal frontier is "the illusory crystal divider, the glass membrane between Mexico and the United States." Carlos Fuentes has intimate knowledge of both countries and has built an international literary reputation on that knowledge and his compassionate cham-

pionship of the poor and oppressed.

The Crystal Frontier, with its pow-

erful writing and many fine pas-

sages, reinforces that reputation. The central, though lightly sketched, figure in this novel is the gangsterish Leonardo Barroso. Rich. powerful, politically connected, fingers in every money pic on both sides of the glass wall, he is an amoral, self-made man who despises his poor relatives. His wife, with her friends, strips her "little Indian boy" servant naked and sends him around the room with the hors d'ocuvres. Barroso appears at his julcy worst after he decides that his goddaughter Michelina Laborde (decayed aristocracy on financial uppers) will be the wife of his son Marianito (withdrawn, stumbling intellectual). Following a disastrous evening out with the young woman. Marianito, blubbering and full of Jack Daniels, vonits on his

her, right? Tell me you did." The reader sees how things will go. A dozen assorted characters press against, slip or crash through the transparent barrier. A representative scene occurs in a glass-walled New York office building in a connection between an advertising copy writer trying to "come up with a nice catchy slogan for a Pepsi commercial" and a decent young Mexican man whose poverty forces him to fly north with a work crew to clean Manhattan office buildings over the weekend. The scene closes with the copy writer and the young man writing their identities on the glass wall of her office and then pressing their mouths to each side in a cold symbolic kiss. The people in these stories are

stock composite characters, that is, made up of recognizable attributes that carry particular political/cultural messages. There is Barroso himself who comes to a bad American end; Juan Zamora, the good homosexual; Dionisio Rangel, a genius of Mexican culsine ironically trapped in a lecture tour through "the gastronomic deserts of Kansas, Nebraska, Wisconsin, Indiana, or the Dakotas": Marina, a factory worker; the tourist-taxi driver who briefly becomes Barroso's chauffeur; the European-immigrant-descendant border guard who avoids the sunlight to keep his skin pale; the illegal border crosser; and others.

If these figures appear as silhouettes with little depth, if the cultures of Mexico and the United States are loaded with such pop tarts as male strippers and Mexican women workers on a night off stuffing the strippers' jockstraps with money, if we see nationalisms instead of cultural complexities, coincidence instead of plot development, it is because such father's silk robe. Don Leonardo says | sets and characters suit Fuentes's with some intensity, "You screwed | purpose. Miss Amy, a rich and el-



Fuentes depicts Mexicans as a people afflicted by shame, pain and bad luck

derly racist, herself a cliche, says to her nephew, "I forbid you to touch my cliches . . . They're the shield of my prejudices. And prejudices, as the word itself indicates, are necessary for making judgments. Good judgment, Archibald, good judgment a pre-judgment. My convictions are clear, deep-rooted and unshakable. In such a construct, seemingly stilted dialogue emerges as savage and ironic commentary; the stories take on the weight of parable.

Fuentes presents Mexico as a country of poor, dignified, courteous, compassionate, hard-working people with a sense of history but afflicted by shame, pain and, above all, bad luck. The United States which a character jokingly calls "The United States of Amnesia" for its ignorance of the events of 1848 that "stripped us of half our territory -California, Utah, Nevada, Colorado, Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas . . . - is peopled with the arrogant, the

neys across the United States, "was pleased to discover that beneath the commonplaces about a uniform, rebotic society devoid of culinary personality, there roiled a multiform, eccentric world, quasi-medieval in its corrosive ferment against an order once imposed by Rome and its church and now by Washington and its Capitol. How would the country put itself in order when it was full of religious lunatics who believed beyond doubt that faith, not surgery, would take care of a tumor in the lungs? How, when the country was full of people who dared not exchange glances in the street lest the stranger turn out to be an excaped paranoid authorized to kill anyone who didn't totally agree with his deas, or a murderer released from in overcrowded mental hospital or ail . . . a neo-Nazi skinhead ready to slit the throat of a dark-skinned person, a libertarian militiaman pre-

pared to finish off the government

The character Dionisio, in his jour- | by blowing up federal buildings country where teenage gangs a better armed than the police?

"All writing is political," sign | Europe and the Americas, with higher literary activist chara? | David Komansky, chairman of Chicano literary activist change in The Crystal Frontier, Jose fr. cisco, mounted on his Rab Davidson and carrying photocopages of Chicano storics to Moand Mexican stories to Texas. To ture from both sides so that every

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18 at 4053.7. Gold up \$1,05 at \$212.05.

IMF aid fails to reassure markets

Quardian reporters

GUARDIAN WEEKLY November 9 1997

THE International Monetary Fund sought to restore confidence to the battered markets of outheast Asia last week through a \$23 billion credit package for Indonesia linked to economic and bank-

But the three-year aid package, announced by the IMF managing director, Michel Camdessus, in Washington and supplemented by \$3 billion from the United States reasury and other countries inchiding Singapore, provoked acepti-dam in Indonesia and elsewhere.

World financial markets were braced for another turbulent week mid fears that recent jitters could presage a prolonged rout. A renewed outbreak of selling in

the Far East could swiftly spread to Komansky, chairman of Merrill Lynch, predicting that Wall Street could fall by 20 per cent from its summer peak - implying a further 800-point drop.

Volatility remains at its most acute in Southeast Asia, where last weekend the Indonesian authorities closed 16 banks, as part of a series measures which included trimming the national budget and abolishing several monopolies, and Hong Kong's leaders ordered a review of their strategy of maintaining the US dollar peg.

Marie Muhammad, Indonesia's finance minister, said the reforms will obviously depress economic growth for the next two years". But he expected it to rebound to 7 per cent by 1999/2000.

Mr Camdessus praised the mea-sures, saying they "should restore confidence in the Indonesian conomy and contribute to the stabilisation of regional financial

Economic analysts were not optimistic, Laksemann Sukardi said growth would probably struggle to reach 4 per cent in the next three years and only bold moves, such as crapping protectionist national ca and aircraft projects, abolishing all monopolies and rooting out corrup-tion, would restore confidence.

Other commentators said the only way to renew confidence in the economy and the rupiah, Indone-State, which LBJ saw as the new last currency, would be to remove his own constituency; and how he currency, would be to remove healdent Suharto, who has ruled

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Going south . . . São Paulo traders feel the impact of a global selling wave last week PHOTO: DARIO LOPEZ-MILLS

Baby boomers save a grey day

Many small investors responded to the panic in the market by rushing to buy more shares, says Mark Tran in New York

HERE were many frustrated small investors on Tuesday last week, the day after the Dow Jones index plunged a record 554 points. Not because they had lost money, but because they could not get through to their brokers to place "buy" orders. In New York, many skipped lunch and rushed to Schwabs, the discount brokerage,

to snap up shares. Last week's record slump on Grey Monday and its rebound on Turnaround Tuesday answered the big question hovering over small nvestors. Would they cut and run in a rout and contribute to the panic? But most small investors did not just stay put; they wanted more shares, an impressive show of popular capitalism.

One of the biggest changes since the October 1987 crash is the rise of the small investor and the proliferation of mutual funds. Before the

crash, 812 mutual funds managed and Morgan Stanley have discov-\$241.9 billion; today, that figure has ered the benefits of catering for ballooned to more than 2,800 funds controlling \$4,000 billion, according to the Investment Company Institute, the mutual fund trade group. More than half of that amount is

n equities as "baby boomers" put their faith in the market to tide them over when they retire. Investors pumped more than \$220 billion into equity mutual funds last year, nearly double the \$128 billion registered in 1995 - and the bulk of the new money is capital for retirement.

Some 80 million baby boomers in the United States need to save for their retirement, and they have learned the lessons of patience from the 1987 crash: those who stayed in the market recovered their losses in about two years, and have enjoyed huge gains in the last 10. Buy on the dips is a cliche, but small investors have taken it to heart, as they showed recently.

Wall Street houses have recognised the growing clout of the retail investor. Much of the impetus behind the flurry of mergers between securities firms lies in the desire to tap the retail market. Investment banks such as Salomon Brothers

small investors, who will be pouring money into the market during the next 20 years. Managing those assets and collecting fees is less volatile than underwriting and deal-

In February, Morgan Stanley, the blue chip investment bank joined forces with Dean Witter in an \$8.8 billion merger precisely to exploit the retail market. Morgan Stanley would provide strategic advice and underwrite shares and bonds for corporate clients. Meanwhile Dean Witter would use its national network to sell shares, bonds and mutual funds to millions of small investors around the country. The same desire to become a onestop shop brought Salomon and the Travelers Group together. It is a lifficult venture to pull off, and only Merrill Lynch has done it successully. But the growing retail market is a powerful lure for the investment

While Wall Street woos small nvestors, their interest in playing the market is being piqued by the plethors of personal finance magaines such as Worth, Money and

Smart Money. There are cable net-works such as CNBC and CNNfn to stoke even more interest. Most of the gurus who appear on these cable networks tell investors to stay put, providing an element of stability in the storm.

Grey Monday's freefall, however, served as a reminder of the market's brutal twists and turns. It was the first time since 1990 that the Dow had slumped as much as 10 per cent from a recent high, and it showed how easily the market could be spooked by distant events - in this case, the market turmoil Southeast Asia. Logically, the travails of these Asian economies should have had no impact on the US stock market, underpinned by a robust economy. But, as the Federal Reserve chairman, Alan Greenspan, pointed out in his testimony to Congress the following Wednesday, the crisis in Southeast Asia was just the pretext for a market that needed to ose steam after heady gains in the past two years.

If it had not been for Southeast Asia, Mr Greenspan said, something else would have been the cause of a re-evaluation. In 1987, Mr. Greenspan beloed calm the markets by opening the credit spigots until the crisis passed. This time he soothed them by talking about the silver lining behind the market gyrations. The steep market losses of recent days. Mr Greenspan argued, could have a salutary effect on the real economy because the dron would dent confidence, make consumers feel less wealthy and damnen demand. That would prevent the economy from overheating and increase the likelihood that the six-and-a-half year expansion would

Although small investors did not flee the market in droves, the recent events have made them more cautious. But some Wall Street analysts still think the small investor is heading for a rude awakening. Everyoody is skittish and nervous, except the great unwashed public - who are convinced this is snother opportunity to buy stocks on weakness, said Barton Biggs, legendary chief global strategist at Morgan Stanley. But after the recent crash the great unwashed helped save the day.

Fear and Loathing in Washington DC

Jonathan Yardley

MUTUAL CONTEMPT Lyndon Johnson, Robert Kennedy and the Feud That Shaped a Decade By Jeff Shesol Norion, 591pp, \$32.50,

THE CENTRAL argument of this I thorough, provocative book is that the rivalry between Lyndon Johnson and Robert Kennedy had effects on American life that ran far deeper than what it did to the two men. Their story, Jeff Shesol writes, "unfolds like a Greek tragedy ayed out on the nation's center stage," and was "the defining rela-tionship of their political lives."

More than that, it altered almost everything it touched: "Nor can one fully comprehend the 1960s without considering the Johnson-Kennedy feud. The issues that wrenched these two men apart - Vietnam, race, poverty - were at the heart of many personal and political cleavages in those years of division. But Johnson and Kennedy were not, like student demonstrators or civil rights workers, peripheral or anonymous figures. After John Kennedy's assassination, they were the political titans of the decade. They not | could not escape the nagging and only responded to issues but also shaped them. From the war in Viet-



LBI: A great man brought down by a tragic flaw

the imprint of this personal rivalry." Shesol is right to call this a "Greek tragedy," for Lyndon Johnson was a tragic figure in the classic sense of the term: a great man of heroic dimensions brought down not by his rival but by his tragic flaw. Though most people probably would describe this flaw as vanity or insecurity - and Johnson had plenty of both - it seems to me that it was of a meaner order. Johnson ultimately trivializing effects of his pettiness. Nothing was too small to

visers, Harry McPherson, written in 1965 as it began to seem possible that Robert Kennedy would chal-lenge Johnson for the presidency three years hence, pointed directly to the problem, if in highly diplomatic language: "You have the of-fice, the policies, the personal magnetism, the power to lead and inspire, and above all the power to put good ideas into effect. An ob-session with Bobby and with the relationship of your best people to him may, I believe, distort policy and offend the very men you need to attract." That was precisely right. Lyndon Johnson was a man of vision and firm commitment to social justice, but when crises arose and tempers boiled, he lost sight of his "good ideas" and focused, obsessively, on his enemies, real or

imaginary. Among these none yielded pride of place to Bobby Kennedy: not Barry Goldwater, not Richard Nixon, not Eugene McCarthy, not Ho Chi Minh. Johnson loathed Kennedy because he was what Johnson himself was not and because he had what Johnson himself did not. Kennedy had a Harvard degree, a natural ease among per-sons of education and wit, a family fortune to under write his ambitions.

found none. Kennedy was not susceptible to Johnson's charm, flattery or intimidation. Kennedy did not fear Johnson - Johnson feared Kennedy, and bated him for it. . . . It was as if he were created to remind ohnson that his political hold was never secure, his claim to the presi-

that Johnson repeatedly violated, or so at least Kennedy believed. Two of ing over everything perment the most colossal (and trivial) everything — the escalation of [misunderstandings of 20th-century American life forever shaped fallout on the home front. Kennedy's view of Johnson: the long sequence of bumbles that finally resulted in Johnson's selection as date has been known as the co John Kennedy's running mate in of the political comic strip 1 1960, and Johnson's decision to be but here establishes his crede sworn in as president aboard Air as a historian. He has written Force One, hard upon Kennedy's book but not, unnecessarily bases sination. Bobby Kennedy tuitously long, complex and thought Johnson was callous, opportunistic, ignorant, coarse and course of this rivalry, and it mutuative tworthy; he believed that set forth in some detail. The Johnson was a congenital liar, ended as we all know, at a ho incapable of distinguishing between truth and falsehood, and he resible years for America, 1968.

fered the hope of lasting compro-mise or accommodation; there was too much pride on both aides. As of the many millions who with 'problem of the clites' to the collapse of the Democratic coalition, the major events of the sixties bear the legacy of the fallen president and his "Camelot," and an independent and his "Camelot," and an independent the story assumes the dimensions of a great drama played out on a happy ending.

nerabilities, and in Kennerly be stage too vast to comprehend, its tors all too human even as they's sume the mythical shapes in she we now see them. The transit. from JEK to LBJ; the battles, in Co. gress and the streets, for of rights; the abortive campaign force Bobby onto the 1964 Dec cratic ticket as vice-president dency was never legitimate, and his | nominee; the War on Poverty place in history was never assured."

By contrast Kennedy was not phobic, but he harbored righteous that long about probity and politics that longer assured. The failure of "community action the rise of RFK to the Senate and the rise of RFK to war in Vietnam and its calamin

It is an appalling story, commonly well by Shesol, who tant business was transacted

garded everything Johnson said or I am one of those who be Nothing that either man did of red the hope of lasting comments that had Sirhan Sirhan not at Robert Kennedy would have

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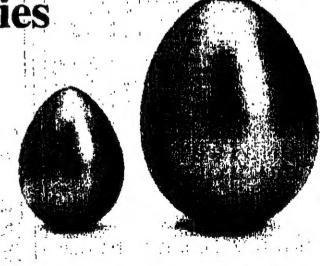
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Flying doctorates

HE ultimate in distance learning was celebrated last month. Mr. Caple at his headquarters in when a select band of graduates from the northeast of England were presented with degrees from an institution they are never likely

Charles Sturt University, in New South Wales, in Australia, may be more than 15,000km away, but for the pace-setting Northumbria Ambulance Service (NAS) it was one of the few places in the English-speaking world capable of turning its staff's skills into something of a profession.

In the splendour of Alnwick Cas tle, 33 paramedics received their Bachelor of Health Science (Pre-Hospital Care) degree from the university's chancellor — while their bosses lamented that no British institution was capable of meeting their educational requirements.

Frustrated by the lack of interest in Britain, Laurie Caple, chief executive of NAS, found a sympathetic ear when he visited Australia for a speak-

ing engagement three years ago. Charles Sturt, one of the largest providers of distance education in Australia, had already started a degree course for paramedica and the electronic jump to Britain didn't seem that much further.

Charles Sturt's Faculty of Health Sci- | ambulance driver with no academic | now in line for a doctorate.

Newcastle upon Tyne, and the paramedics enrolled. They received a little help from Northumbria, which agreed to pay individual course fees of about \$5,000 as well as cover the cost of the necessary study books.

while a lecturer from Charles Sturt, Jean Hines, agreed to make a short example of Britain's Open University, study weekends were held at the ambulance service's small col-

Students, most of whom have no sent by air freight.

"The whole thing has worked day'a work.

Hodge himself started as an

Learning packs, including videos and audiotapes, were sent over bi-annual lecture trip. Following the lege north of Newcastle.

A levels, equipped themselves with PCs and brought work assignments on disk into Northumbria's headquarters where they were e-mailed to Australia. Other written work was

much more smoothly then we could have hoped for," recalled Dave Hodge, head of human resources and training at NAS. "Our staff work incredibly hard as it is, very long days when on duty, and I takes a great effort to fit in something like this before, or after, a

ions. "I'll need a rest first, bebetween shifts. "It took to pa out of my life, it was very differ have any home life, with a fally job and studying on top, But real like to do something else.

The paramedics' two year on included a research project six a according to David Hodge, program the service with some whit pointers. One students students additional impact on the serie through the lack of GPs h Son and Another researched to perennial problem of bed m plaints among hospital staff

Mr Caple is now determined: push his academic rental throughout NAS, which has a staff - 236 of them parameter has signed a three-year agree; with Charles Sturt University adinow working with college throughout the country to mik the new Bachelor of Health Scina degree. With a greater emphasic community care, he believes to paramedics will increasingly be; the front line of health prevision

The emphasis is now very me about taking the care to the priz rather than the patient to hopp Mr Caple says. "I suspect that will 15 years there will be very little qualifications 18 years ago. He came up through the ranks and Chris Kimber, a motorcycle paraference between the training st of a nurse professional and a pos-sional ambulance academic." E 1974, has found the going tough the question remains as to where although he is now attracted to the | a British university can offer it prospect of gaining further qualifica- I necessary study programmes

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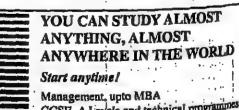
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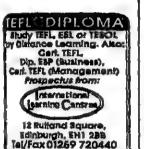
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Nanny Agency in Epson, Sum They say it is not for the take to

tus but for child protection is

those working as namies should

on a compulsory register, subtone police checks and a code of one

duct. Many nannies agree re

Louise Davis, principal of by

land Nannies, says: "I sincetyle lieve the Department of Heible a responsibility for children and

for by nannies." But the Namy lie

brella, the pressure group of this

Norland is part, was disappointed see no mention of a register in the

Early Excellence document pulls

ward by Labour, the attitude sec-

solutely exposed to harm."

says Davis.

ing to be that nannies are for to

The cradle of trust

BRITISH au pair, Louise Woodward, is found guilty of killing baby Matthew Eappen. The jury in Cambridge, Massachusetts, spends three days deliberating, but in the end accepts the prosecution case that Woodward shook or battered him to death.

Who is the victim in this dreadful story? Baby Matthew and the parents who have lost their child, certainly. But also Louise Woodward. Whether or not she harmed the baby, it is clear she should not have been given responsibilities for which she — a girl just out of school, not a trained nanny --- was obviously unsuited.

Those who think the Eappen tragedy could not happen in Britain are wearing blindfolds. Childcare is a free market. There is almost no regulation. Parents are walking a tightrope when they place their precious child in the hands of stranger. The only safety net is the word of a previous family that nothing untoward has happened.

This unregulated free-for-all fails parents, fails nannies and au pairs, who sometimes find themselves propelled by commercial agencies into situations they cannot cope with. Most of all, it falls children.

Au pair agencies of the sort that sent Louise to the United States are regulated, they will argue. US statutes demand they make checks. They ask for references. Let us pass on the fact that references are often for babysitting, from friends' families. But do the agencies explain to the girls that what is dressed up as a cultural exchange is in fact a means of exporting cheap labour to the US? In 1994, Senator Patrick Leahy complained it was "sold abroad as a great way to experience American culture and here as a great way to get inexpensive childcare".

The expectations of girls who have recently left school, with a bit of babysitting experience and perhaps younger alblings, are an ocean apart from those of American fami-

full-time nanny who will get up at the crack of dawn and spend a nine-hour day in sole charge of their children five — or even six — days a week. British au pairs, however much they like children, go out for the travel and the fun. There can be a rude awakening. Some girls cannot cope. . Sometimes, it leads to tragedy.

Angela Martin, head of the Select Nannies agency, has heard some stories from the girls who return and later sign on with her as nannies. "One girl was told: We want you to be here every evening by 8.30 in the house to let us go out seven nights a week.' That was after a 12-hour shift. When the girl complained, they said: That's what you are here for. You are here to do what we say.

"The girls don't know anything about the background of the families. They all think they are going to be in a movie star's house in California. "One girl was left stranded. The

original family situation was in a nice area with shopping malls and lots to do. They moved to the middle of nowhere, three miles from the end of a dirt road. The girl was told she was not allowed to go to other people's houses or take the baby out. She didn't have a weekend off for nine weeks. She got in touch with another nanny and organised to go to Disneyland on a Sunday. It was one of the girls' birthday. The family sacked her. She was left at the airport with no money. She had

to phone home for the fare." Not all experiences are bad. Some girls have a wonderful time. But concerns led Congress to consider removing the cultural programme status of the su pair scheme. Interestingly, while some reforms were made in 1995, the parents' lobby forced it to scrap its recommendation that only those over 21 could look after children under two and to dilute the need for the au pair to be supervised when they first arrive from a week to three days.



Guilty . . . Louise Woodward hears the jury's verdict PHOTO TEDETITIONERALD

any woman can have a child, the | are private arrangements, says the theory runs, any woman is fundachild, How wrong.

In opposition, the Labour party backed calls for a national nanny register, which would include police checks and regular inspections, and the regulation of agencles. Now it is in government, Labour, which is committed to helping single mothers get out to work and backs women in the workplace, says it is not a priority.

Yet, in the wake of Dunblane and other disasters, there are strict controls over those who work with children in the public and voluntary sectors. Britain is heading towards a paedophile register that will record not only convictions but auspicions apart from those of American families. Working parents in the US believe they are employing a cut-price. In Britain, two, some of those who of abuse. For parents who employ offer their services as nannies have no experience or training. Because there is no protection at all. These

British student with no child-

care qualifications and with

experience limited to babysitting

state. It is an attitude that harks back mentally capable of looking after a | to the days of the employee who be longed to you, body and soul.

But the world has turned. The enormous boom in the need for childcare has been due to women going out to work. They are not employing a household of servants but a substitute mother, in charge of and alone with their child in their home. Nobody, most times, is watching.

Anyone can be a nanny. The main marketplaces are agencies or The Lady magazine. A small ad attracts dozens of applicants, many of them speaking English poorly, offering their services at cheap rates on the black market. Many have little or no experience. They find jobs because they are willing to work for very little money, without tax or sinte welfare contributions, for families who want cheap labor are strapped for cash.

The description of the parents of the parents of the growing dome of the volcano collapsed without warning, sending millions of tons of ash and rocks in a sending pyroclastic flow down its lanks. In a matter of minutes an area of almost 6km was covered with a thick, white-hot layer of ash. An island in shock counted the cost. Nine villages were devastated. Nine villages were devastated. Nine villages were devastated. Singular presumed dead, and several more were badly burned. Only it is same position here, she say.

GUARDIAN WEEKLY

Letter from Montserrat Lally Brown Those campaigning against state of affairs are at the report

and expensive end of the sale Under the volcano where names are qualified at generally well-paid — the has sional Association of Hara Nurses, the Norland Nursey in

Nurses, the professional part ing College, the professional part in Russery World and Playpen, and work on a Friday afternoon and we would talk Montserrat, about the about the life and about my life. We came from two different cultures, but we were friends.

She would lift the box of mango. and put it beside me, ready for my selection. Leathery with age, she was tiny but tough, and would carry that box for miles, hawking her fresh fruit and vegetables around her regular customers. Sometimes she would rest, sitting in the shade of the mahogany tree on the main road, appearing to doze but always alert for a passing customer.

Beryl's home was up in the fertile hills beside the mountain. Until the volcano woke up two years ago. None of us here could have imag-

rich and privileged. That is not any ined what the future held in store. Slowly, inexorably, the volcano grew Ann Waddington, a banise from an inconvenient baby, blowing steam from vents in the hillside, to a working on childcare cases sasis appalling that there is no central greedy gargantuan giant devouring the southern part of Montserrat with database where parents can at kil ensure their nanny has no crimit pyroclastic flows of hot gas and ash. record. "There is no element of a It wasn't long before we were pervision within the home bear ordered to move further north to a the mother is out at work, which: safer part of the island, abandoning what this government is promote the fertile farming land and the capi-We are leaving the most vulneral! tal of Plymouth to the ashy appetite sections of the community & of the volcano. Beryl moved too. Sharing a small room with two other

Which brings us back to at pis which brings us back to an pa' people, she continued to sell what in the US. "Agencies should si init she could find — some limes, putting girls like Louise Wooder. plantains or grapefruit. Two or in circumstances where they re three times Beryl was tempted to going to be over-stretched, it is meak back to her home in the hills recipe for disaster." Wages are first to pick the fruit which had ripened in the US, but UK agencies push; inher absence, the salaries to increase their on mission, she alleges, which rise the expectations of the parent of the growing dome of the volcano ollapsed without warning sources.

one of them was Beryl's. The mountain had claimed its first victims and told the agency's local representative what was going on.
"She had a chat with me and Moniserrat went into mourning.

■ WISH Beryl were still here. [] The volcano continues to dominate our lives. New areas have been designated as exclusion zones and barriers erected. Four times I have moved, but the volcano can still touch me directly. On September 21 there was an abrupt change in the type of volcanic activity. Explosive eruptions began to occur, at a rate nawpaw and bananas from her head of two to three a day. First I would hear the boom of the explosions, a rumbling like thunder. Then I would see the convoluting cauliflower of the eruption column rising into the sky. Mesmerised by its awcsome beauty, I would stand and watch as it writhed and rolled upwards, sometimes reaching 30,000ft

We had 75 of these eruptions before they stopped, just as abruptly as they had started, last month, But some of those columns of ash collapsed back on Montserrat and sent pyroclastic flows spinning down all sides of the volcano reaching the sea, burning the airport, devastating what was left of

Occasionally, the wind direction conspired with the volcano to send the ash clouds over us in the northern part of Montserrat. The sky overhead would darken as the ominous black cloud rumbled and cracked with thunder and lightning, dumping a variety of volcanic debris over us as it passed. From a raining veil of grey, choking tale to two-inch lumps of pumice hammering the roof, over the past month I've cleaned up after them all.

At the end of October the volcano reverted to dome growth again. The olume of the dome was estimated to be a massive 68 million cubic metres of steaming rubble. It is the highest point on Montserrat, at a towering 3,198ft. I thought the crater left by the explosions was vast and hoped that this phase might give us something of a respite. But I have been told that the magma is rising to the surface and replenishing the lost material at a rate equal to the size of a small car per second. It will be no time at all before the crater is filled.

No one can say for certain what will happen next. And no one can say how long the volcano will re-main active. We just continue to live



Inder threat . . . the Banaue rice terraces face a new, subterrancan peril

FEATURES 25

Worm turns on Philippine rice terraces

Adam Facton in Banque

A LREADY under threat from 7 poor maintenance and cultural change, the 2,000-yearold Banaue rice terraces in the northern Philippines are facing a bizarre new menace - giant

The narrow terraces, which rise like stairs up the hillsides and have been dubbed the "eighth wonder of the world" by the country's tourism department, are slowly being eroded by the worms, which can grow up to 45cm long.

It is thought the worms arrived when higher-yielding rice strains were imported afte the second world war. Christopher Pagadut, of the Rice Terraces Commission, has studied the impact of the worms. They bore deep within the ter-

race stones, which produces an effect like a hole in a dike. When the rains come in the rainy season they wash away the soil, leading to the collapse of the wall and the terrace," he says. Mr Pagadut is looking at

methods to control the worms that will not damage the fragile terraces. Planting sunflowers had only a limited effect, and treating the soil with a solution of soap powder and salt and using pesticides caused mental damage.

The most effective method has been a pest control system used by the Ifugao tribe, who, it is believed, first began building the terraces between 200BC and 100AD. They mixed forest vines with water and treated the soil with the concoction during planting. But vines from the rainforest are already depleted.

The terraces face other threats. Young Ifugaos are deserting the uplands for the cities and there is a shortage of

water for irrigation. To halt the decline, the Philippine tourism minister. Mina Gabor, is considering charging tourists who visit the

Notes & Queries Joseph Harker

WHY does autumn have a sep-arate American name, while the other three seasons don't?

French, originally Latin, root, whereas the words for the other

Murray, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

stude or something. The angle of the line disrupts the birds' navigation and, once encountered, causes them to change direction. - Malcolm Newell, Adelaide, South Australia

IOTHING non-lethal is likely to V be effective in the long run. Nevertheless, some amusement is still possible. My wife and I have found that a good quality, high-powfrom the language, whereas the ered water pistol — when used with more down-to-earth Pilgrim Fathers patience, vigilance and stealth — is very effective. A direct hit appears Krog, Buenos Aires, Argentina

> Buy a cat and let him go on the balcony. At first his food costs will be quite low, but they will rise as the pigeons learn. - Kevin Prince, Trieste, Italy

DEVELOP a taste for squab. — William O Moeser, Springfield, Vermont, USA

LIAS bird song changed over

AST YEAR, every morning and Levening, a blackbird sang out-side our window. Without fail, it incorporated the telephone ringing CAN'T remember having a "square meal", Can someone

A "SQUARE MEAL" is a good meal, "fair and square". Ancient Greek had a similar idiom. People called a good man istragonos, which meant "four cornered or "square". - Janet Fairweather, Ely, Cam-

Any answers?

OME years ago, Edward de Bono was brought in to advise the Venezuelan government on how to improve its education system through "lateral thinking" in the classroom. Was this eriment successful? ---

Answers should be e-mailed to weekly@guardien.co.uk, faxed to 0171/+44171-242-0985, or posted to The Guardian Weekly, 76 Famingdon Road, London EC1M 3HQ. The Notes & Queries website is at

British nanny trapped in the home from hell

A MANDA HARRISON was 18 and had just left school. She wanted a year out - a year of fun, travel and excitement far from home, writes Sarah Boseley. America beckoned and ny girls in the gap yea she signed up to be an au pair. In a strange parallel with Louise Woodward, the couple she was sent to were in the medical profession. The husband was a doctor and the wife an angesthetist. They lived in Atlanta, Georgia, in a huge house with a swimming pool. "It was quite awesome."

said Amanda. She had been told by the agency to expect a new-born baby but there were some surprises in store. It was a surrogate baby, delivered to the house a week after Amanda arrived. Not only was Amanda surprised. So were all the couple's friends. Amanda was initially introduced to their circle as the daughter of a British friend. And then . . . guess what! Suddenly they had a baby and she was the nanny.

The couple behaved as if they had a new toy, said Amanda. "For the first few weeks, they were buying expensive outlits. They would wheel me and the baby out to show us off." But it was she, the young

and voluntary work in a primary school, who was left literally holding the baby. "I was looking after her 24 hours a day. She was sleeping in my bed for about the first two months. I bad total responsibility. I was the one getting up in the night." What was the child to think? "The poor baby," said Amanda. "It was like I was her

Amanda . . . victim of psychological power games strained, "They

mother." When the two of them were rought in to be shown off to friends and the adoptive mother would pick up the child. "she would crane her neck around trying to watch me". The baby would cry. "Your natural inutinct is to pick her

up." But when Amanda did, and the baby quickly quietened, the couple did not like it.

weren't interested in the child at all. The baby acreamed when they went near. It got to psychological power games. The car of the season was a

Jaguar. The man said it was a beautiful car. Then he told me he had a toy in the garage. It was a new black Jag. I said my father had one. He didn't talk to me for a week." She bad not underatood the couple's perceptions of the British. "They thought everybody in Britain was a backward coalminer's daughter or like Princess Diana." Either way, employing an English nanny was a status symbol.

Amanda was on call the whole time and was not allowed any use of the car. So much for the 45-hour week and alternate free weekends written into the contract, She knew that what was happening was not right but tool the blame on herself: "I just thought it was my fault because I didn't know any better. And it was pride, after moving away

months. The agency placed other girl with them after their She was there five mo pretty much had a nervous breakdown. They made her clean out the dogs and the swimming pool." Leaving the child was hard! Amanda. "It was such a wrend." to leave her after four months because she was my baby. She would be 11 now." Her second happy. But she knows now that the tiny baby who thought she was Mum was lucky in one way

for those four months. The

said, 'Right — we're getting ou out of there now'. They picked me up and I was out." She had

been with the family for four

pressure of caring for such a small child might have led another girl over the edge.
"Thank God I was fine with America."

Luckly, she knew another

British au pair not far away, who

A Country Diary

Richard Maboy

HILTERNS: The 10th anniverreallent native woodlands are, if bey're given a little breathing space. Contrary to what the forestry kremlahs predicted, the stricken Chilterns woods haven't vanished

wallowed up by what Nan Fairwould be 11 now." Her set we would be 11 now." Her set will set in our landscape" — scrub.

Indeed, the only areas that now look
less than woods are those where here has been wholesale tidying up and replanting. Everywhere else, the mattress of wreaked timber has erved as a rough shelter for specacular natural regeneration.

in my own small wood, horizontal obeams have continued to from the trunk. Stripped oaks have and roo put out new ruffs, Ash, as usual, has cliffs.

ber 1987 was a reminder of just how more acid soils, birch is behaving in worth, Blagnac, France the same way, Everywhere less prominent trees - holly, whitebeam, rowan, hazel

been the great opportunist. Thick-

ets of seedlings have shot up

through the tangled wood, and are

and field maple - have appeared out of the potent combination of from the face of the earth, or been | new light and a run of good seed years. Only the beech has done badly, which perhaps reflects how artificially high its population was in the extensive beech plantations of the Chilterns . But species lists don't give much

ides of the sheer vivacity of these aspiring woods, the mix of heights and densities, the way that dense clumps of saplings alternate with butterfly-rich glades, or the newty will alternate of the medical floor wild character of the woodland floor tive, sending up vertical shoots liself, with its holes and hummocks and root-plates like miniature chalk

THE word autumn has a medieval

seasons are of Germanic origin. In Britain, the French-speaking, fashlonable classes managed to displace the original expression "leaf fall" retained it when they set off for the sary of the great storm of Octo- | already 20ft high in many places, On | New World. - Terance Hole

> HOW do I get rid of the pigeons that infest the balcony of my flat?

A TTACH one or more plastic Achildren's pinwheels to your balcony railing. This not only keeps birds away, but brightens your balcony at the same time. - Terry

IF YOUR balcony frame is wood, insert brass drawing pins along the lower level at 12in intervals then along the top starting at 18in then 12in spaces. With a reel of clear nylon fishing line, make a diagonal but Invisible V-shaped barrier. If the but into its song. — Geoff Dobson, The Notes & Queries websile balcony rail is metal, glue on some Ashburton, New Zealand http://nq.guerclan.co.uk/

explain this expression i

HAVE been told that a male child will always grow up to be taller than his mother. Is this true? — Mike Hardbattle, Leicester

Anthony Ferner, Learnington Spa

THEATRE Michael Billington

BASED on a text by the avant-garde writer Shuji Terayama, and blending drama, music and speciacle, the lavishty operatic Shintoku-Maru at London's Barbican Theatre proves that Yukio Ninagawa, famed in the West for his Macbeth and Medea, is one of the great image makers of modern theatre.

The show starts with the recorded voice of Alan Rickman giving us a somewhat convoluted plot synopsis. But when the action starts, all becomes clear: this is really a Japanese Phedre - with odd echoes of Hamlet and Oedipus - with a happy ending.

The Beatle-mopped hero, Shintoku-Maru, is haunted by the memory of his late mother. But when his father buys a new wife in the market-place, S-M is compulsively drawn to his step-mother, and, after a good many ups and downs including a trip to the underworld, they finally consummate their love.

Not speaking Japanese, I cannot judge the literary merits of the piece, but Ninagawa once again proves himself a master of choric spectacle. The show's opening and closing image, for instance, offers a restless, turbulent kalcidoscope of a seething Japanese thoroughfare filled with masked welders, cyclists, rickshaw-drivers, parasolled brides. traders bearing on backs and shoulders aucient TV sets, and even what looked like a portable house. Urban Japan's strange mixture of past and present is caught in a dream-like image.

Ninagawa studied the visual arts and he often treats the stage like a giant canvas. When the hero's father goes to choose a bride from a group of run-down travelling players, the horror of it is conveyed by the sight of grotesquely supplicant figures reaching out from behind a portable cage as if part of a Wedekind-like human zoo. And the underworld, filled with mothers seeking their children, is evoked through floating candlelit barges and a melancholic procession of glant-stemmed flowers.

Terayama, who died in 1983 and was a controversially provocative figure, meant us to be shocked by the story; and there is one particularly chilling moment when the hero, disguised as his stepmother, starts to molest and abuse her young son.

But the overwhelming impression is of the haunting strangeness of forbidden love and of the inclusiveness of Japanese theatre. In Britain, we divide theatre into separate compartments; in Japan, an avant-garde story with classical echoes easily blends with soft rock, choreographed movement and retina-ravishing spectacle.

Tatsuva Puliwara as the hero is all confused bovishness. Kavoko Shiraishi as his stepmother exudes guilt-ridden passion, and Sumio Yoshii's lighting contributes much by its aubtle chlaroscuro. But Ninagawa is the master synthesiser who brings it all together, and proves that he has the capacity to paint with people.



In time-honoured fashion, rows are brewing about this year's Turner Prize and its all-female shortlist. But, says Adrian Searle, for once the art is more important

May the best woman win

HERE'S usually an argument when the Turner Prize exhibition opens, and this year will be no exception. At 1996's prizegiving ceremony for the all-male shortlist, compere Joan Bakewell rattled her space age jewellery and promised girl power in 1997; yet instead of the rude girls and obvious contenders Sarah Lucas and Tracey Emin, this year's artists are Christine Borland, Cornelia Parker,

Gillian Wearing and Angels Bulloch. The controversy over the Turner Prize this time, however, is that there is no real controversy. An allwomen shortlist? Who but a nincompoop could complain? No painting? Last month saw the previously slack Jerwood painting prize awarded to 1996 Turner nominee Gary Hume. Last week, the John Moores Painting exhibition opened in Liverpool The Turner and the Moores hand out £20,000 to the winners, while the Jerwood offers £30,000. The difference is that the Turner beano gets the publicity, including the swanky televised award dinner on December 2. Here we go again.

Whether or not the contenders on show at the London's Tate Gallery are the best artists in Britain is another story. Best for what, we might | ity and its miseries, commemoratprovoking? Art that isn't thoughtabout, much less looking at.

The centreplece of Parker's Turner installation is a companionpiece to her 1991 installation Cold Dark Matter (An Exploded View). an exploded garden shed now in the Tate's collection. Mass (Colder, Darker Matter) comprises the charred timbers of a wooden church

destroyed by lightning in Texas. Like much of her work, Mass (the double-edged title is one of its better elements) depends on meanings that have as much to do with labelling and context as with any intrinsic' value in the materials. The work is a lake frozen moment, 's drawing in space, an explosion of coal meteorites dangling from trying not to move; Sixty Minutes

is a 3-D drawing. Her second display at the Tate fea-

tures a pair of corroded commemorative silver-plated wedding goblets, Twenty Years Of Tarnish, which would come in handy at a marriage guidance session as a visual aid. There are also earplugs moulded from fluff collected in the Whispering Gallery of St Paul's Cathedral and a Georgian silver spoon drawn out into a wire as long as the Niagara Falls are high. This last is called Measuring Niagara With A Teaspoon. All this is deft, poetic, and at its best resonant and polgnant. Parker's work is a reliquary of unconsidered, everyday objects trans-formed into powerful, sometimes playful symbols. Many of her inadvertent souvenirs and ephemeral relics have just the kind of symbolism beloved by poets and novelists.

I had my doubts about the inclusion of both Parker and Christine Borland. Their works involve an almost forensic approach to objects, and both depend on ideas of context, playing with the conventions of museum display and taxonomy. Furthermore both are artists whose sensibilities touch on life's mutabilling, inscriptions, and the histories

strings. As much as anything else, it | land shows three works at the Tate: a group of life-size portrait busts on plinths; two little leather dolls; and an installation about Charles Byrne. the 7ft 10in tall "Irish Giant" who died in 1783, and Caroline Crachami, the 22in "Sicilian Dwarf" who dled at the age of nine in 1824. The **skeletons** of both reside in the Hunterlan Museum at the Royal College of Surgeons.

> ERE their bodies exist as traces: Borland had replicas of their skeletons made, and used them as stencils, laying the fabricated bones out on sheets of glass that were then dusted with fine powder. The bones were then taken away, leaving a powdery silhouette of the absent forms. The sheets of glass are presented as shelves, protruding from the Tate's walls. Carefully angled lighting casts the images through the glass and on to the walls themselves. The image of the little girl hovers a couple of feet above the floor, while O'Brien's supine skeleton hangs way above our heads.

Both people were ill-used in both life and death. O'Brien's bones were stolen, while Crachami's body was sold to anatomists without the girl's ask ourselves. Most entertaining? ing losses and falsifications. Both, parents being told. The story's the Most telly-friendly? Most thought too, are highly dependent on label thing, but Borland's installation thing, but Borland's installation doesn't quite work, in terms of the provoking isn't worth thinking of the items they work with. Bor- I relationship between dramatic light-



charred wooden beams and char- Police, stationary . . . Gillian Wearing's hilaflous video of cops PHOTOGRAPH, TATE GALLERY

Surprise choice . . . Angels Bulloch and her beanbag beas HOTOGRAPH: GRAHAM TURNER

ing, the cast shadows of the skeley images and the construction of fu shelves themselves.

Borland's second major work a altogether better in a display the net in the Münster Academy of E Anatomy, Borland discovered a se ries of sculpted busts that depict a Borneo tribesman, a black South African, a child with a tragic defermity, two sturdy Nordic types, 1 st dent's botched exercise in sculpted portraiture, and a low-browed No ancierthal ape-man. All records a lating to these busts were lost in the second world war, but it is likely that they were used as demonstra tion models in the institute's short of eugenics and "racial hygiene".

ORLAND has had these anonymous heads remade with a computer-assiste laser-imaging machine. The oldy translucent replicas have a masient, luminescent quality, it is a powerful work, evoking had histo ries, lost identities, stories unoid.

and beefy senior officers. The my pers were persunded to hold the pose not for a minute or two, butfor an hour. There they stand and sit trying to maintain their composure but with evident, growing discon fort. They twitch. They snuffle and they shuffle. They get cramp, the gurn and stretch. Waves of disconpointposity auguified, their discription breached. At the last moment the most disciplined of all snaps in the most disciplined of all snaps in the most disciplined of all snaps in the matched by his achievement.

My own comes early on, when

yelp of relief. His shout can be heard all round the galleries.

Sixty Minutes is incredibly function if it has a stronger purpose, it is voives our perceptions of authority and of the bodies beneath the serge Angela Bulloch is the surprise choice for the Turner. Giant biomer phic beanbags form a soft sculpture in the centre of the room. Various are activated by a light sensor a you enter, and by a couple of round platforms you can stand on. The low hum of a theremin adds to the soundscape. A' big yellow light comes on, and goes off again, and machine does a sort of noisy cardise. What is Bulloch's work about the mology, collapsing at the end of a rigorous afternoon of art-walch are played thou for adults kind of the suburble control for adults kind of the suburble control of the suburble doors in headinger's Angel Face in 1952.

in a play-school for adults kind of in a play-school for adults kind of way, and the whole thing is given a bit of a twist by a slightly impleased wall-painting that contains a beneficial suffers. The words, from an official suffice. The words is sufficient to the sufficient to t

This year's competition makes in an interesting, if alightly downers an interesting, if alightly downers an interesting, if alightly downers are the good — the most interesting in the good — the most interesting in the strong doesn't always grab the around doesn't always grab the around doesn't always grab the tabloid pages. If anything the tabloid pages, if anything the follow the plot, and you'll work aligned to follow the plot, and you'll book the plot, and you'll be the plot, any the plot, and you'll be the plot, and you'll be the plot, any the plot, and you'll be the plot, any the plot, and the plot, any the plot, any the plot, any the plot, and the plot, any the plot, any the plot, any the plot, any the plot, a is more interesting than the original self, which is just as it should be

The Turner Prize exhibition is at the Tate Gallery London, Until January 18

The clowned heads of Europe

Nancy Banks-Smith

THERE was a positive enterreinment value about pre-war royals. Many were off their heads, and some, like Alexander of Serbia, who was thrown out of a window, on their heads. None

> The Balkans were the best. Elisabeth of Romania would stand on the terrace of her house by the sea, shouting bless ings at passing ships. The sheer improbability of the dynasty was relebrated by Dorothy Parker. "Oh, life is a glorious cycle of song/A medley of extemporanea/And love is a thing that can pever go wrong/And I am Marie

seemed to have their feet on the

Albania was the last of the Balkan states to hanker after his unfailing source of fun. The

crown was hawked around. Aubrey Herbert, a Conservative MP, turned it down twice on the grounds that the position was unsalaried, thus denying us the charm of an Aubrey of Albania. An Albanian tribal chieftain

declared himself Zog I and entertainingly invented his own salute. Mussolini, who also invented his own salute, invaded and Zog left with his wife, their day-old son and the portable part of the treasury. They spent the war in the Ritz and paid their bill with gold bars.

Zog suggests a visitor from the planet Tharg, an impression his son tends to confirm, in Mondern Times (BBC2), we saw the day-old baby grown to 6ft 10in and campaigning to be king in a Monarchy v Republic

The Modern Times strand was understandably tempted by The Return Of Zog. Nick Broomfield has a lot to answer for. He invented, probably by happy accident, a TV documentary tha loesn't need the subject's cooperation. You couldn't snub

susceptible to teasing. Broomfield's success, though variable, encouraged producers like Peter Dale to film the dogsbodies if all else fails.

Broomfield. He affably filmed

the snub. This worked excel-

blanche, who was exceptionall

ently with Eugene Terre-

Zog II displayed the customary coyness, so we passed the time with a Ruritanian cast of brigands. The sequence of non-events was characteristic of the genre, "We're feeling a bit left out . . . We were no clearer what the king's plans were . . . Everywhere he went, he studiously lgnored us."

On the eve of the referendum, Zog granted a brief audience. It going to bring justice, peace and law and order."

"That's for me to know." He was, you noticed, a relentess chain-smoker. Tirana crackled with gunfire like a perpetual Bonfire Night.

Zog lost the referendum, claimed the ballot was rigged and emerged in battledress with a Kalashnikov. The gunfire edoubled. Outside the Electoral Commission, a man was killed.

It was chaotic, and in this sense it gave you a very fair idea of Albania.

The Real Holiday Show (Channel 4) produced Martin and Jason, two friends from Bracknell in Berkshire, who meshed with the beautiful inevitability of the born doubleact. Martin is darkly goodlooking and obsessed. Jason is cheerful and overweight. Their backchat is clever and funny. They could easily repeat this natural act on TV.

This time they happened to be

hunting tarantulas in Borneo. Martin already has 200 torantulas in his flat. You can't have

too many tarantulas. Jason said: "Martin is seen as the Intrepid Explorer, I am the Mr Bean of this operation." He

doesn't like insects at all. When his hammock wasn't collapsing, Jason dreamed of Disneyland. "It has all the sort of things I like, Air-conditioning food, lots of food, lots of junk

Sometimes silence fell with a bit of a bump. "It's that hot you don't talk to one another because you know that whatever you say is going to wind up that person enough to want to beat you to death."

A tarantula looked out of its hole. There's one! Where? V...e..r...y gently. Got it! Oh,

Personally, I feel for the spider. One moment you're in Borneo, the next you're in Bracknell. You have to sympathise.

Crimes

Gillian Wearing's major video la stallation, Sixty Minutes, is hilariou Dark underworld and deceptively simple. Wearing apparently persuaded 26 policents and women to pose for a video group portrait. There they sit and stand: helmeted hobbies, fair con

Richard Williams

sees LA Confidential, Curis Hanson's adaptation of James Ellfort overtake them one by one Slowly, their dignity is eroded, their pomposity magnified, their disciplant that are likely a moment which provides the

seating arrangements seating arrangements.

This year's competition makes for the picture intact.

Royal Academy's Sensation in the an up an hour later with nothing sensational at all. Above all, we have book at book blook at but cactus. Hanson and screenwriter, Brian Helgeland, have cut away a minimum 80 kreent of the book's undergrowth, is without reducing the essential

At heart this is a buddy movie, although the buddles don't know it until the last 20 minutes. Ed Exlev and Bud White are two young detectives caught up in the consequences of a Christmas party at the police station, during which a bunch of drink-fuelled cops stomp on the heads of half a dozen Mexicans suspects. A partial cover-up, followed by the slaying of one of the accused cops in a restaurant bloodbath. leads the pair into a three-dimen-

sional web of evil. To begin with, they travel independently. White (Russell Crowe) is a little bullet of a man, working off the memory of watching his mother die at his father's hands, focusing his mad-dog rage into freelance retribution against wife-beaters. Exley (Guy Pearce), the ambitious son of a distinguished cop, isn't afraid to forfeit the friendship of his colleagues in exchange for the cleanhands rep that will take him where he wants to be.

REFEREEING their rivalry is Dudley Smith (James Cromwell), the captain of detectives, who has their number. "You have the eye for human weakness," Smith tells the smooth Exley, saye: "Don't start trying to do the right thing. You haven't had the

Slightly to one side stands another detective, Jack Vincennes (Kevin Spacey). "Hollywood Jack" moonlights as adviser to a TV cop series, while trading details of forthcoming dope raids on the pads of movie stars and jazz musicians for front-page coverage in Hush-Hush a scandal rag edited by Sid Hudgens

While Exley makes his stand for probity, White dives into the underworld: fists flalling. Their first serious clash comes over the person of Lynn Bracken (Kim Basinger), a Veronica Lake lookalike from a stable of hookers specialising in providing sex with living replicas of Hollywood stars. An hour later, the Hollywood stars. An hour later, the parade of Oscar nominations along night-blooming jasm penny has dropped. If we're going aide Spacey's suave amoralist and fume of corruption.



Girl'n the hood . . . Kim Basinger in LA Confidential

White, "we need to work together."

Hanson's record includes The

Hand That Rocked The Cradle and

The River Wild, but nothing in it

suggests the mastery with which he

controls the movement of this en-

semble piece — in particular Exley's whiriwind interrogation of

three murder suspects. The decl-

sion to take a chance on casting an

Australian (Pearce) and a New

Zealander (Crowe) as the young de-

tectives is triumphantly justified by a pair of nerve-tingling perfor-

o figure this thing out," Exley tells | Cromwell's tweedy Dud Smith, the

scariest Irish cop since Sterling Hayden in The Godfather. Not for-

getting Basinger, who floods Lynn Bracken's soul with a bruised virtue

rewarded in a final sequence that

joyously plays fast and loose with the audience's expectations.

LA Confidential gets just about everything right. The light, the architecture, the slang, the music. A

racism ("Schwarz hopheads!") that

lives on. A wonderful Lana Turner

ioke. A sense, above all, of damaged

J ANACEK'S final opera was last seen in London more than 10 years ago, and that production. David

Pountney's for Welsh National Opera, was a searing, unforgettable experience. ENO's version at the London Coliseum isn't quite in that class dramatically, but it is always tense and involving, and more than good enough to confirm From the House of the Dead as one of the 20th century's operatic masterojeces. It is almost an opera without a

plot. Janacek's libretto, taken from Dostoevsky, is a portrait of inmates at a Russian gulag who, locked into an endless cycle of deprivation, can only assert their individuality by recounting the tragic stories of their crimes. Tim Albery skilfully moves the shambling mass of prisoners about Stewart Laing's functionally institutional set, but it is the four autobiographical tales that provide the opera's pivotal moments and allow Janacek's score to seize upon a few precious moments of lyricism.

These cameos are carefully observed and vividly delivered by Robert Brubaker, John Daszak, John Graham-Hall and Andrew Shore, while the soprano Gail Pearson plays a boy whose story is never told in the opera yet who seems the music that lifts these desperate characters, that gives them human ity if not hope, is Janacek's most extraordinary score. Paul Daniel conducts it at white-heat, and encourages both his orchestra and the men of the chorus to believe in it passionately too.

House Of The Dead is ingeniously prefaced by Mark-Anthony Turnage's Twice Through the Heart Simply and effectively staged by Patti Powell, the dramatic scena becomes a tight monodrama The female protagonist, a woman imprisoned for killing her violently abusive husband, is sung by Susan Bickley with such directness and command of Turnage's achingly expeople arriving to make new lives pressive melodies that the work mances which deserve to stand in a | and getting seduced by the scent of | takes on an extra dimension. It is a night-blooming jasmine, the per troubling and thought-provoking evening.

I OHN MAJOR'S greatest mistake was not his handling of Black Wednesday in 1992 but his decision to be a candidate for the Conservative leadership in 1990. Major admitted at the time and later that, when he became prime minister, he had insufficient knowledge or experience of politics, government or issues.

Yet his decision to stand against Michael Heseltine and Douglas Hurd, both of whom were manifestly better qualified for the job was not the result of a sudden whim. As one of his entourage wrote after he had won, Major was "a very nice man" but he was also "ruthless". Highly ambitious and better at getting jobs than doing them, he had meticulously cultivated the partiamentary party.

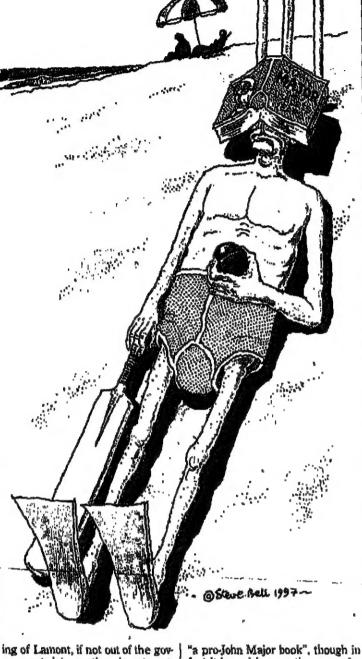
What Anthony Seldon calls Major's "clever and deliberate avoidance of being labelled as on one wing of the party or the other" en-abled him "to slink past Heseltine and Hurd" and, with the strong support of Margaret Thatcher, to gain No 10 Downing Street. Had he remained in No 11, he would have grown in stature as a competent Chancellor with a good chance of winning the leadership the next time round, and his standing would have been higher than it is today.

The second blow Major inadver tently dealt his reputation was, heavlly against the odds, to win the 1992 general election. Bequenthed a wretched legacy, he had reunited his party, gained the respect of international leaders and was popular at home. Up to the election, nothing had gone badly wrong and, had he lost, he would not have been blamed for the defeat. The general verdict would have been that he was a fully adequate and all-too-shortlived prime minister.

Black Wednesday cost John Major his — and his party's — reputation for competence. From then on he and his government were doomed, Evidently Major soon realised that he and Mrs Thatcher had taken sterling into the Exchange Rate Mechanism at far too high a rate, for Seldon reveals that in 1991 he requested the preparation of a secret plan to devalue sterling within the ERM. Yet when in the autumn of 1992 such a devaluation was | Froude ended his biography of the | put it, "they disgust the British elec-clearly imperative. Major and his | saint of that name with these words: torate". In addition, he was handi-Chancellor, Norman Lamont, did nothing to achieve one in conjunction with other countries.

Instead, Major made a bombastic speech condemning devaluation, and at a meeting of European finance ministers at Bath. Lamont. with Major's concurrence, tried to bully Helmut Schlesinger, the president of the Bundesbank, into reducing German interest rates. The idea of Lamont being able to browbeat Schlesinger is risible enough, but Schlesinger had no power to make such a decision on his own even if he had wanted to.

Then, after blundering into, and through, Black Wednesday, Major and Lamont made matters worse by not admitting responsibility or apo-



Yet, although Seldon tells us that Major contemplated resignation, both men remained in situ.

All this is admirably recounted in Major: A Political Life. Anthony Seldon is one of the most skilful of the historians of contemporary Britain: his study of the 1951-55 Churchill government is a classic of the genre. But Churchill's Indian summer is a very different book from this one. It is written schematically, whereas this one is "one damn thing after another" and sometimes seems

more like a chronicle than a history. Seldon reminds us that one of the three towns in John Major's Huntlife of the great saint, St Neot." When they reach the end of Seldon's 856 pages, many readers may of his own making. The fractiousfeel that they know rather more ness of the parliamentary party was

the political life of John Major. Yet this is a valuable book, which He seldom raised his game; he alwill be especially useful for students. Seldon has been an indefatigable interviewer, and the necessary facts, hardest Thatcherites, he continued are there. He is particularly good on Major's early life, demonstrating what an extraordinary achievement it was for the future prime minister to rise to the top from such disadvantaged beginnings.

Seldon's judgments, too, are usually sound, if sometimes too tenta- true sentiments. But by then it was

ernment, into another department. | fact it is, and is none the worse for that. Major has been so much attacked that it was time that a knowledgeable and balanced case was made for him. Seldon rightly thinks Major to be "an honourable man who retained his dignity" to the end and whose "courage was exceptional".

YEAR or so before the elec-tion, Tony Blair said that John Major was not the problem for the Conservative party; the Conservative party was the problem for John Major. Certainly Major was sorely tried by his parliamentary following. The Conservative right were so imbued with ideological feringdon constituency is St Neots. | vour that they could not be brought The 19th century historian J A to recognise that, as Matthew Parris "This is all — and indeed rather | capped by — for a Conservative more than all — that is known of the | prime minister — an unprecedentedly hostile press.

Yet some of his difficulties were than all that needs to be known of | partly due to his hardly ever giving them the scent of future success. ways seemed to be playing for a draw. Though he never satisfied the down the Thatcherite road, and though he never satisfied the so-called Eurosceptics, he went on drifting in their direction.

Only towards the end did he start making "one-nation" noises which, according to Seldon, expressed his

Merchant's tale

Robert Irwin

The City of Light by Jacob d'Ancona translated and edited by David Selbourne little Brown 392pp £22.50

CAN imagine David Selbourne's delight when, a few years ago, an acquaintance visited his house in Urbino and placed in his hands a medieval manuscript whose very existence had hitherto been unsuspected. This manuscript had no title - The City Of Light is a title imposed on it by Selbourne.

The manuscript purported to be the narrative of a Jewish merchant who in 1270-1 travelled from the Italian port of Ancona to the Chinese port of Zaitun, "the City of Light". Jacob's journey to China anticipated by a few years that of Marco Polo, and his account of how he reached Zaitun and what he saw when he got there seems to provide startling new information on matters of considerable importance. If one had not read The City Of Light, one would not have guessed that Anconitan trade in the 13th century was as vicorous as Jacob describes it, nor would one have suspected the size and commercial Importance of the Jewish communities in the ports of feet on the way the city was actual louist. Board notwithstanding, Iraq. India and China. Above all, 1 cm. Above all, it is obvious that it May's psycho-city is the same old The City Of Light provides unex- terms of the debates are flagrant blints violent retribution of biblical pected testimony about social and anachronistic. moral decline in the cities of 13th

century Sung China. But that is only part of it, for The City Of Light is no threathure record | too lew surprises in its plotting by say enough to make Edgar Allan of ports visited and exotic commodi- mostly because Jacob's characte Resitup.

traveller who, as he travels, medi- I love a good hoax tates lengthily on the wonders of and I admire the God's creation and on man's duties to ingenuity which God, The book celebrates Jewish appears to have religious and commercial achieve gone into this one ments. Moreover, once Jacob ar-

once Jacob arrived in China, he apparently took
part in an extended series of debates with Chinese merchants and
thinkers on civic duty and other
matters. Jacob and his occasional intellectual ally, a former Chinese official whom Jacob called "the noble
Pitaco", argue in favour of the dution Pitaco", argue in favour of the duties of the individual to society and vice The Cit tainment, and the shucking off of Light brightened up my week, the blame for criminal acts on to society as a whole.

Selbourne himself writes on political philosophy from a rightwing point of view (though he has de-scribed his position as "civic socialism"). He must have found jacob's thoughts on religion and civic responsibility thoroughly congenial. The English text has been handsomely produced and illustrated, and it comes equipped with a scholarly glossary and notes. In his introduction, Selbourne informs us that, because of problems concerning the provenance and ownership of the manuscript, the original text cannot be made available for the in-

spection of scholars. I can imagine Selbourne's delight. in finding such a manuscript - but logising for the disaster. The very tive. As he says, his book is not much too late, and his government I do not believe in it. The cod least that was required was the shift-uncritical; he says also that it is not had made far too many blunders.

ple, in the course of their order journey from the Mediterranean the Gulf, Jacob and his companies.

A BREATHTAKING dismantling the Gulf, Jacob and his companies. travel on from Damascus actistic place across the blacktops and moparallel with Baghdad, and they is with suitbout accountering with suitbout accountering and they is with suitbout accountering and they is without accountering and they is suitbout accountering and they is suitbout accountering and the suitbout accountering acc this without encountering my missign posts and unfolds more like a obstacles. I find this incredible his isconic, existential road movie in was a time when the Manhk Sid search of the blg whatsit. In a world tans of Egypt and Syria were are of poetic yearning, lonely detour with the Mongol Ilkhans, whende and sporadic violence, peopled by over Iran and Iraq, and one seemingly random encounters—quently the land frontier betass except there is no such thing in Sal-

Moreover, even in peacetime, the its own. Sallis is a writer of real auroute chosen by Jacob's party is a bority, making absolute what in improbable one. Most cares is capable hands would be effete. chose a more northerly mute ad his bleak landscape inhabited as crossed over from Aleppo to north punch by Neruda and Pavese as by ern Iraq via Palmyra. dead letter drops.

There are larger and more neblous problems with The City (The Laper Colony, by Ron Light, It is most improbable the McKey (Golfancz, 29,99)

source, does it work as a novel! (arer - vigilante force, drugs, think not, partly because there at pm, collusion - and a climax ties exchanged. Jacob is a reflective | does not develop as his story to |

as a wise man and

Pitaco", argue in favour of the duties of the Individual to society and vice versa. They denounce the decline in religious values, the decay in respect for the old, the cult of youth, moral relativism, permissiveness in education, the unfettered free-market, homosexuals, violence in entertainment, and the shucking off of Light, no novel, is the Monkey's Fist, by William ally a treatise on politics and publics and publics and publics and public is the Monkey's Fist, by William ally a treatise on politics and publics and publics and public is the Monkey's Fist, by William ally a treatise on politics and publics and publics and publics and public is the Monkey's Fist, by William ally a treatise on politics and publics and publics and publics and publics and publics is the Monkey's Fist, by William ally a treatise on politics and publics and public is the Monkey's Fist, by William ally a treatise on politics and publics and publics and publics and public is the Monkey's Fist, by William ally a treatise on politics and publics and publics and public is the Monkey's Fist, by William ally a treatise on politics and publics and public is the Monkey's Fist, by William ally a treatise on politics and publics and public is the Monkey's Fist, by William ally a treatise on politics and publics and public is the Monkey's Fist, by William ally a treatise on politics and publics and public is the Monkey's Fist, by William ally a treatise on politics and publics and publics and public is the Monkey's Fist, by William ally a treatise on politics and publics and public is the Monkey's Fist, by William ally a treatise on politics and publics and public is the Monkey's Fist, by William ally a treatise on politics and publics and public is the Monkey's Fist, by William ally a treatise on politics and publics and public is the Monkey's Fist, by William ally a treatise on politics and publics and publics and publics and public is the Monkey's Fist, by Light brightened up my week, in the light bright brightened up my week, in the light brightened up my my secret it doesn't exist by one of today's most talented Scottish writers, "nationality" would surely be top of anyone's list. This collection, at first, seems to offer the most likely theme for a book of stories by one of today's most talented Scottish writers, "nationality" would surely be top of anyone's list. This collection, at first, seems to offer the most likely theme for a book of stories by one of today's most talented Scottish writers, "nationality" would surely be top of anyone's list. This collection, at first, seems to offer the most likely theme for a book of stories by one of today's most talented Scottish writers, "nationality" would surely be top of anyone's list. This collection, at first, seems to offer the most likely theme for a book of stories by one of today's most talented Scottish writers, "nationality" would surely be top of anyone's list. This collection, at first, seems to offer the most likely the most likely theme for a book of stories by one of today's most talented Scottish writers, "nationality" would surely be top of anyone's list. This collection, at first, seems to offer the most likely theme for a book of stories by one of today's most talented Scottish writers, "na interests, has set him up.

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GUARCIAN WEEKLY November 9 1997

Thrillers Chris Petit

quite hard to fault. Even so, the particular problems. For employees Sallis (No Exit Press, 210)

Picador 682pp £20 Syria and Iraq was closed to tade | lies book - this moves to a beat of

Chinese mandarins or schools TOUGH but haunted Downe diswith a visiting European trader a 1 covers, with his hated father's an equal. It is hard to understant death, that his real name is Bone, how Jacob could have participated and, after sawing off his dead Da's so effectively in these debates the loger, heads from New York to he was working through an interpreter. It is equally improbable to their debates could have had any to the Gentrification and the Scottish anachronistic.

If the book is not a historic stofvernaculars, With nods to Get

> folds. He start speratition, by David out from Ancon Imbrose (Macmillan, £16.99)

the comes back or wiser. In China by surface complexity and narra-wins every debat for simplicity see The X-Files, an he engages in the tensive weekly dose of bunk opponents be the believable by the muttered, and then realise the paranor-they realise the third is as canny at deflecting inshility to delivations. Eight people join to creams reasonablence exphost and then start to die one

wilme, by Peter Mews (Allen Munwin, £6.99) IT-AND-MISS neo-existential

Phorie: (+44) 181 324 5603 Fax: (+44) 181 324 5678 Email: bidemail.bogs.co.ul member (car crash, head injuries)
at exactly went on between him
this wife in England (dead lover, 250 Wastam Avenue, London 43 SELIA

hops). Dreamlike and sufficiently. frantien to disqualify as a thriller. ilime is included here because it but often this column can drum up the many instance dominates a book too to talk about; in another, a young track by literary influences.

In a set on a uny island community the pace, but the collection is that Englishness and McWilliam's minute obsequence dominates a book too to talk about; in another, a young man tells his figure that he has wider questions of identity emerge to the many interest of the collection is that Englishness and McWilliam's minute obsequence dominates a book too to talk about; in another, a young man tells his figure that he has wider questions of identity emerge in the collection is that Englishness and McWilliam's minute obsequence as vividity as it in the collection is that Englishness and McWilliam's minute obsequence as vividity as it in the collection is that Englishness and McWilliam's minute obsequence as vividity as it in the collection is that Englishness and McWilliam's minute obsequence and wry his collection is that Englishness and McWilliam's minute obsequence as vividity as it in the collection is the collection is that Englishness and McWilliam's minute obsequence as vividity as it in the collection is the collection is the collection is the collection is that Englishness and McWilliam's minute obsequence as vividity as it in the collection is the collection is the collection is that Englishness and McWilliam's minute obsequence and M itaged by literary influences.

Monsieur Everything

David Coward

Victor Hugo by Graham Robb

> **ICTOR HUGO**, not content to be a genius, accustomed his to think of him as a volcano spewing hot truths, a beacon radiating dazzling light. When he died in 1885, France's greatest everything poet, playwright, novelist, philosopher, rebel, humanitarian, lover was seen off by 2 million people and the news made page one of newspapers across the globe.

But some dared to carp. Heine thought the adjective "Hugoiste" must be the superlative of "égoiste". Claudel would later speak of the "gaseous emanations of his verse", | for 50 years. In 1843, he and when asked to name his favourite lyric poet, André Gide replied: "Victor Hugo, hélas!" That "hélas!" speaks volumes. Clever people have always preferred Baudelaire, Flaubert and Rimbaud, but Hugo has been unstoppable. In | cessfully for the 1992, a poll declared him France's | next 30 years. second favourite novelist, Nowadays, he is once more a superstar. His was the pen that brought us not only Les Misérables with tunes but Disney's "dorsally challenged teenager called Quasi", as Graham Robb pungently puts it in his brilliant and very sharp biography.

Hugo was an army child, born in 1802, when armies reeked of Napoleonic glory. He was raised largely by his mother who divorced his dashing but phllandering father in 1815. By then, Victor wanted to be "Chateaubriand or nothing". He embraced classicism in literature and royalism in politics. He had already attracted attention by the time he married Adèle Foucher in 1822, but he was even then succumbing to his imagination. Riding on the back of Nodier, the "pilot" of Romanticism, he led the crucial charge with Hernani (1830), a fiery drama which broke the rules and prefaced the July Revolution. He no longer wanted to

be anyone except Victor Hugo. Notre Dame de Paris (1831) was Notre Dame de Paria (1831) was by "social questions", failed, reatriumph. But it also set a political agenda. Through Quasimodo, foul in December 1851, and fied, with a in 1870, Hugo's

man and gave a content to the social romanticism which he never aban-doned. He denounced the death penalty and defended freedoms which the state seemed intent on curbing. By the mid-1830s, he had four distinct personas: Olympio (lyricism), Herman (love), Maglia (laughter) and Hierro (combat). I was, as Robb remarks, "a limited company of egos", and Hugo lived each one to the hilt. Herman and Maglia joined forces as sensuality found outiets in the opportunities offered by ac-

without but fair within, Hugo re-claimed history for the common

tresses, groupies and whores. In 1833, he had begun an affair with Juliette Drouet who admired him as much as she loved him met Léonie Biard and acquired a third household, "Le Père Hugo" juggled his complicated private life more or less suc-By 1840, Romanticism was in the main-

stream and Hugo had done as much as anyone to put it there. He was not yet a democrat, which perhaps explains why he failed to capitalise on the vogue for serialised fiction which made media stars of Dumas and Eugène Suc. who between them had a greater impact on popular opinion. Robb

does not venture an explanation (was Hugo already too Olympian?). but he notes that Hugo now wrote less and fornicated more. Moreover, he was deeply affected by the death by drowning of his daughter, Léolpoldine, in 1843. He could not accept that God is indifferent to human wishes and for the rest of his life sought to understand the interconnectedness of things which is the basis of cosmic unity.

He threw himself into the revolu tion of 1848, tried to replace politics price on his head. He riposted with I after the France-Prussian deback the devastating Napoléon le Petit gave him his favourite role as a oneman opposition.

Hugo spent the next 18 years in the Channel Islands where he discovered the Ocean, spiritism and a cosmogony which demonstrated that progress was the struggle for Love. It was a religion based on fraternity which, notes Robb tarily, might have been constructed by a Unesco committee". Exile proved a smart career

move. The oceanic exile now spoke to the whole world in poems rhetorical, lyrical and apocalyptic. Les Mis-érables (1862), a tale of redemption, accused society of making criminals and gave him a reputation as the

in 1870, Hugo's return to

was a triumph. He tried his hand at which infuriated the new order and | politics but quickly retreated into his final persona as France's selfappointed spiritual leader.

BOOKS 29

playwright, novelist, philosopher, rebel, humanitarian, lover

Victor Hugo: dazzling poet,

Graham Robb is a cool, deft and congenial guide to a writer who was and remains a monument. Monuments are difficult to humanise, but Robb, maintaining a cracking pace, gives us a very human Hugo: a fas-cinating mix of self-delusion and tremendous creative energy. If he sitches up the Hugolian trousers now and then to show feet of clay, he succeeds brilliantly in celebrating the extraordinary achievement of a writer who was everything to excess — hélas.

If you would like to order this book at the special price of £16 contact

A question of identity

Lucy Atkins

by Candla McWillam Bloomsbury 244pp £14.99

F ASKED to predict the most few surprises: It is divided into two sections, "North" and "South", which are bridged by a sophisticated tale ("Seven Magples") in which characters journey, symboli cally, from Scotland to England. But ism and a moody brood as a Wait Till I Tell You is about identity in a wider sense — personal, familial, national - and proves surpris-

ingly expansive.
Some themes are familiar. Many stories in "North" cover the divi-sions and delimitations of Scotland: one is set on a tiny island commu-



for the spoken word

been in America, building bridges when he has actually been washing up in a tourist hotel in Loch Lomondside — characters are at once drawn to and restricted by

McWilliam is concerned with hu-manity, not just Scottish or English nationhood. Food is symbolic; a human requirement, common to all, but also a sign of difference, cultural, national or individual.

The narrator of the opening story ("Shredding the Icebergs") rups a atali on a beach, providi food for the "types" or "tribes" which congregate. She asks herself, "where did these different kinds of souls get born and how do they hatch?" This question echoes throughout the collection; what makes people who they are? Class is as important as nationality: in 'Homesickness', the owner of a health food shop contrasts the "laird's well-hung haggis with veni-son and blaeberry" against the "pasties, bridles, mutton ples, puds and saveloys in batter" of his home town. Humanity, for McWilliam, is reassuringly functional, and difference, however notional, has its physical symptoms.

Perhaps the main weakness of the collection is that Englishness does not emerge as vividly as it hight. England is described —

and it becomes clear that I a country where someone had turned down all the control knobs: no bright colours, no real noise . . .' But a pitfall of describing blandness is the difficulty of simultaneously

transcending its "South" opens with a funny and clever story, "Strawberries", which focuses on a privileged but isolated only child coping with his dystunctional, well-to-do English parents, but the main achievement of the piece lies in the ironic subtleties of the child's perspective on adult hang-ups: there can be little to say about English class distinctions that has not been said before.

As the title suggests, the spoken word is relished. Many of the stories begin midway through a conversation, and characters are often described in idiomatic terms. The prose, too, is sonorous -- peppered with Scottish words, like "keeked" and "scunnered", and with place names and terminology ("pantiles" on a playhouse roof; the study of "finite dimensional vector space"). This can slow up the pace, but overall McWilliam's minute observation. structural finesse and wry humanity give full voice to the many dimen-

This autumn has been spectacular for spiders, or to be more accurate, the work of spiders, Woods and fields have been densely rigged in the finest gossamer threads that the twig to twig, leaf to leaf, even earth to aky. Sunlight shines on long free-floating threads, morning dew sparkles on an intricate gossamer rigging that looks like frost. The millions of architects of this remarkable collective construction remain largely invisible, as if the world has been caught in some magic weave. The spider's labour is also a good ecological metaphor. As John Muir said, "everything is hitched to everything else" and, in the soft autumn light, thanks to the

Another great autumnal joy this year is sweet chestnuts. Driven by some deeply mammalian instinct to bulk up for the winter, people forage through the woods for the spiny green capsules which hold the chestnuts. This year has been unusually good. Not only have the trees produced a heavy crop of nuts but a good proportion of them are plump enough for roasting.

The chestnuts you buy in supermarkets or traditionally roasted on London streets come from special nut-producing varieties in Italy, where chestnuts are also made into flour. Until the development of pollen analysis it was assumed that sweet chestnut trees were native to Britain. Arguments in the 18th century about whether or not this was true gave rise to the science of historical ecology.

The pollen record has since



indigenous to Italy, the Balkans and Spain. The Romans brought chestnuts to England, as they did many other plants. Many of these Roman introductions disappeared during the Dark Ages or were confined to gardens. But chestnuts, later acquiring a medieval name. became naturalised, particularly in oak-birch woodland in acid condi-

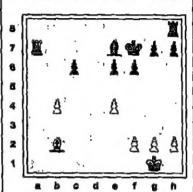
Sweet chestnut, Castanea sativa, named after Castanum in Thessaly (Greece) where it may also have been introduced as in Crete, has become an integral part of English woodland. There are many ancient trees scattered throughout England whose huge fluted trunks twist into wide spreading crowns. In the 17th and particularly the 19th centuries, chestnut woods were planted in southeast England and coppleed for the long hop and vine poles. Apart from yew, chestnut is the most

own ecological context in England. This is unique in northern Europe and may be one of the reasons why it has escaped the Endothia disease that ravaged chestnut populations in Italy and France. Its American relative, Castanea dentata, which once characterised the forests of New England, the Mid-West and the Allegheny mountains, has also been stricken in relatively recent years and been either wiped out or reduced to sprouting suckers from

the boles of once stately giants. This should make us value our English chestnuts more. I discovered a grove of sweet chestnut trees growing on a narrow ridge with oaks on the Wrekin here in Shropshire just a few days ago. They are old, craggy individuals, stunted by the rocky conditions but absolutely laden with chestnuts. Clambering about in their boughs and foraging in their shade was a real joy, and proved that the chestnut was not rot-resistant timber in the ground, their fruit have the around in prehistoric Britain and is Sweet chestnut has evolved its brown taste of autumn. their fruit have the woody, fiery

Chess Leonard Barden

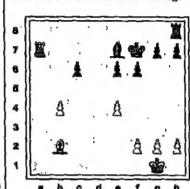
judge the end of a game. Following his débacle against Drep Blue, when he resigned a drawn position, Kasparov reached the diagram below in the final round at Tilburg.



Joel Lautier (White) blundered by 1 Rc7?, then had the presence of mind to offer a draw, Kasparov accepted, and was distraught when he then spotted c5l when 2 bxc5? Rb8 wins the bishop or mates, while 2 b5 or 2 Bc3 Rb8 leave Black a winning pawn up. This expensive mistake allowed Peter Svidler and Vlad Kramnik — the latter reducing Kasparov's lead in the world rankings

Ireland's Russian immigrant grandmaster Alex Baburin ran away with last month's Monarch Assurance Open on the Isle of Man, finishing two points clear of the field despite the presence of British cochampion Matthew Sadler and other English GMs. The £10,000 Isle of Man congress is now firmly established as Britain's most important annual event after the British Championship and Hastings.

GARRY KASPAROV may be all-time No 1, but he can still mis-his king in mid-board wife list



Hodgson and Nunn.

- to share first prize.

Lc4 e6 2 Nc3 d5 3 d4 c6 4 cxd5 exd5 5 Bf4 Bd6 6 Bxd6 Qxd6 7

way. White seems unsure whether he is playing to altack or to equalise, and 5 Q17 mate.

masses his army on the cental field 12 Bd3 c5 13 duch field

14 Bc2 Nc6 15 h3 d41 Nopies Andy Wilson for meeting a dubious flank that by a central strike, but this that also involves a well-udged and offer. 16 Nb5 Qe5 17 kell League captaincy a less than Rfd8 18 Nfe2 Be4 19 Qd2 Red 20 Rd1 Na6 21 64 UNA. 20 Rd 1 Ne6 21 f4 White canal off the pitch. escape the pin on his d4 kmght His only perks from the sport are

NCxd-4 22 Nxd4 Nxd4 23 Odd tors in the trade newspaper. The White's idea is Rxd4 24 fxe5 midn to fair the trade newspaper. The Rugby Leaguer. He does not even the an agent. And the fees for the used to say he needed to see in forest Britain players, even the capone move further than his one in the current series against nent. If 24 Qe5 Qh4 mate.

But it is not just the unnex less. 24 Resigns.

is fielding a near-optimum team of sound stand-off.

Short. Adams. Sadler, Specimal lie was underliably second best

No 2497



against any defence (by D Prior

Birmingham). White's huge mate.

Rugby League First Test: Great Britain 14 Australia 38

Outlook is fraught for Farrell

21 Nxc6 Rxd2 22 Nxe5 because a Wigan club-car and an endorse-Rxc2+, but has prepared a lack ment for Faz Pads shoulder protec-

But it is not just the money. Last The world team champions; minmin's 3-0 whitewash in New began in Lucerne last month has kaland upset Farrell deeply, and sia, the US and Ukraine are Est after last Saturday's 38-14 humbling land's main rivals, with Kazakhaz by the Australian Super League Switzerland, Croatia and Caballed kan at Wembley he found the also-rans. Thanks to long show: time being laid on his perfor-sponsors Duncan Lawrie, England name in the unaccustomed posi-

> whe opposing skipper and stand-if Laurie Daley, whose first-half bitrick killed off the game disapwatingly early for the bulk of a disfactory 41,000 crowd.

farrell himself admitted to some ady errors, notably kicking out on te full on Great Britain's first posssion, missing a tackle on Gorden Talis and allowing Ryan Girdler to 1 st outside him in the build-up to Instalia's first try.

But finding my feet at stand-off Ti not the problem," he insisted. Reple might say it's not my posi-

Sports Diary Shiv Sharma

tion because I made a few basic errors, But it wasn't that. It was just dumb play."

What Farrell might have added, were he the type to criticise his team-mates, was that he was playing behind an outgunned pack. As Daley said: "All big games are won in the forwards and they laid the platform for my tries."

Great Britain allowed the propa lason Stevens and Brad Thorn, the Australians' Man of the Match, to dominate the ruck area. Paul Broadbent and Brian McDermott enjoyed some early success going forward but failed to sting in defence.

"We were too soft; we needed more steel," sald the Great Britain coach Andy Goodway. "We weren't making the hard shots. We need to test the referee a little bit,"

With both his first-choice props Barrie McDermott and Harvey Howard unavailable, Goodway may have to turn to the Wigan veteran Neil Cowie for the second Test at Old Trafford for the required injection of "mongrel". The Leeds youngster Adrian Morley, who inected some much-needed vigour from the Wembley beach, also seems certain to be promoted to the | cake right before the icing." starting 13.

It was a difficult Test for Goodway, who was criticised for selecting Farrell out of position and was even spat at by a few Great Britain spectators as he walked back to the dressing rooms after Australia had run in | Trafford on Saturday.



Farrell . . . tough time ahead

But it was hardly his fault that his players made such a nervous opening and handed Australia their first two tries on a plate. "People look at the international stage to help us get over the World Club Championship, and they get emotional," he

said. "But the international team is only the icing. The clubs are the cake, and we have got to get the That is why, for all the talk of CHALLENGE CUP: Final: Falkir 1 Queen of Stir ()

Farrell switching back to loose-forward for the remaining two Tests, Goodway will surely stick with his

two late tries to build a slightly fla tering winning margin.

Stewart, a driving force for improved safety standards in interna-

tional motor racing, gave a warning

that grand prix racing risks an acci-

dent of horrific proportions unless

the governing body takes a hard line against the tactics employed by

ORMER world heavyweight boxing champion Mike Tyson

suffered a punctured lung and a

broken rib in a motorcycle accident

near his home at Hartford, Con-

necticut. The crash happened

when the the 31-year-old boxer's

lost his bid to regain the world heavyweight championship in June when he was disqualified in his re-match with Eyander Holyfield in

Schumacher in Spain.

turned.

Las Vegas.

First Division: Airdne 1, Ranh 0, Dundee 0,

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP captain and Bobbie Goulding in the critical half-back positions at Old Arsenal Blackburn Demy Leeds Belgians dent Ireland's World Cup ambitions of ITV's Champions of Sports awards was withdrawn, and Jackie

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE

weators Bristol City Northsmiption Milwell Gillingham York Bournamouth Oldham Bristol Rovers Bristol Roven Chestarilari Wycombe Blackpool Grinsby Wigan Wexham Preston Fullom Luton Brentlord Wasail Southend Burnley Phymouth Carisia

Division Three

Notts County Peterberough Exeter

Uncoln City Scarborough Barnet

Scuntherpa

Chester Colchester Macclosfekt

Rotherham

Crquay

wyten Cherry

515 M 2413

De gloaster

SPORT 31

Division Two: Bournemth 0, Braniford 0; Bristol City 1, Olcham 0, Burnley 2, Waisali 1; Cartala 2, Wrishlam 2; Fulham 1, Chesteriid 1; Gillingham 1, Millwali 3; Grimsby 5, Southed Uld 1, Northmoth 1, Bristol R 1; Preston 0, Pymouth 1, Wattord 4, Blackpool 1; Wigan 1, Ved. 1, Micrombe 2, Luino 2.

rork 1; Wycombe 2, Luton 2. Division Three: Barnet 1, Note Co 2; Cambridge 1, Torquey Und 1; Cardelf 0, Swansser 1; Chester 4, Rochdale 0, Darlington 4, Hull 3; Exeter 0, Peterborn 0, Hantispool 0, Brighton 0; Uncoln 1, Leyton 0 0; Rotherham 1, Musclastic 0, Scattson 4, Doncaster 0; Streamber 2, Marcifett 2

Football results and tables

Aston Villa C, Cheisea 2; Barnsley 1, Blackburn Rovers 1; Bolton 1, Liverpool 1, Derby County 3, Arsensi O, Everton O, Southampton 2; Manchester Utd 6, Shelf Wed 1; Newcasite Utd 3, Lalcester 3; Tottenham 0, Leeds 1; Wimbledon 1, Coventry 2.

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE; Division One: Bredford 0, WBA 0; Charlton 3, Ipswich 0, Huddersfid 3, Stoke 1; Norwich 2, Bury 2; Nottin For 3, Crawe 1; Oxford 0, Man City 0; Port Vale 0, Reading 0; OPR 1, Birminghm 1; Shell Utd 2, Trannere 1; Stockport 1, SunderInd 1; Wolves 1,

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE

BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE: Premier Division: Abordeet 1, Hearts 4; Dunlermine 0, Celtic 2; Hibernian 1, Dundee Utd 3, Rungers 4, Xilmarrix 1, St Johnsto 4,

Stenhamm (), East File (), Stromaum 1, Livingston 1, Inventess CT (), Branch ()

Third Division: Berwick 1, Album 1 Condition (), Alica 3, E. Sintry T. Action in 2. Montrosco C. Dumbarton 2. 12 doing Pt. D. Post

BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE Premier Division Dundee Utd

First Division

Hamilton Dundee Railih Falkirk Airdrie Ayr St Miman Partick Gr Morton Stelles

Third Division

East Stirling Berwick Montrose Dumbarton

Tennis Paris Open

Sampras takes the fifth

ETE SAMPRAS virtually made sure of ending 1997 as the world No 1 with his 6-4, :4-6, 6-3, 6-1 victory over the surprise finalist Jones Bjorkman in the Paris Open last Sunday, writes Richard Jago in Paris.

It means the American should emulate the only other player to have finished top at the end of five successive years, his compatriot Jimmy Connors.

In a year in which Sampras has been pursued by Michael Chang and Patrick Rafter, the outcome of his travails appeared to be a relief to him. So, too, did the diagnosis on his shoulder injury; it is "tired" not torn.

Earlier tension revealed a side

of Sampras never glimpsed before. He uttered a four letter word and threw away his racket after a double fault.

Quick crossword no. 391

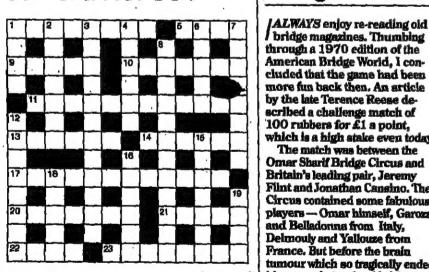
- Citadel (8) 5 Flun away (4) 9 Garret (5) 10 Arque (7)
- 13 Shrewd (6) 14 Rough — odd (6) 17 Carefree (5-3-4)

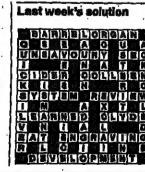
11 Carefree (5-2-5)

20 Boat-race meeting (7) 21 Sole (5) 22 Action (4)

23 Enthusiasm (8)

- 1 Signal --- and slow down (4) 2 Withdraw (7) 3 Summarise (12) 4 Waste matter (6) 6 Ressoning (5)
- 7 AII (8) 8 Old restraint for prisoners (4,3,5) 12 Roamed (8) 15 Wordy (7) 16 Cope (6) 18 Dlm (5) 19 Minus (4)





Bridge Zia Mahmood

ALWAYS enjoy re-reading old bridge magazines. Thumbing through a 1970 edition of the American Bridge World, I concluded that the game had been more fun back then. An article by the late Terence Reese described a challenge match of 100 rubbers for £1 a point, which is a high stake even today.

Britain's leading pair, Jeremy Flint and Jonathan Cansino. The Circus contained some fabulous players - Omar himself, Garozzo and Belladonna from Italy, **Delmouly and Yallouze from** France. But before the brain tumour which so tragically ended his career in top-level bridge, Cansino was regarded as perhaps

Britain's greatest player.
The match was evenly balanced -- but since the British had to play throughout while the Circus could rotate their players, the strain would eventually tell more heavily on the British pair. The event was played amid great popular excitement, something that is missing from the game these days. Later that year, the Circus

went on a tour of the United States, playing exhibition matches. If any team beat the Circus, its players would receive a top-of-the-range Lancia car from the tour's sponsors. At the end, Sharif remarked that the

Circus had become the leading

Lancia distributor in America.

Another article contained a interest Guardian readers. What is the greatest number of highcard points that North-South can hold, yet be unable to make a game? The magazine gave this example of a combined 36 count where no game is possible:

♥KQ ♠KJ765 **★1098765** A432 ₹1098 **♥765432** • Q1098 ♣Q1098 ♠ KQ **♥**AJ ♦ KJ432 ●A432

the maximum. If you think you can do better, send your solution to me here at the Guardian. I can't promise a top-of-the-range Lancing fait; there'll be a small prize for the best solution that I receive by

December 1.

East-West cards in as unfrie a fashion as you wish. A couple of related problems that, as far as I know, have not been solved may tax even the

As in the example shown, you

most ingenious among you.
What is the maximum numbe
of points that North-South can hold between them, yet be unable to make game in any de-nomination against any distribution of the outstanding cards, not merely the lesst

lude to peace negotiations...

Bif 8 Nge2 Ne7 9 Nf4 Nd7 10

Be2 0-0 11 g4?! ... but not this way. White scens unsure whether he THE Republic of Ireland's hopes | 13 games have been played so far | International Sportsman category

stoth-minute goal, but the visitors spalled in the 30th minute. With in goals counting double, the can to a high scoring draw in the turn leg if they are to progress. The game between Russia and hy played in freezing conditions his semi-blizzard at the Dynamo Ancow stadium, also finished as a

ldraw. Italy will go into the return Tin Naples on November 15 as Christian Vieri put the Azzurri lead early in the second half but n. of course, distribute the

den Fabio Cannavaro turned a aminto his own net. a Zagreb, a goal in each half M Crostia a 20 advantage over mine, while Yugoslavia made ir home leg a mere formality by ing Hungary 7-1 in Budapest

AVID PLEAT became the first emierahip manager to be this season when he was favourable? And, what is the minimum number of points the club's recent poor form the minimum number of points the club's recent poor form the solution of the table with only two in 13 league games. The last of the club's 6-1 humiliation by those, then a place in the Hall of the club's 6-1 humiliation by those, then a place in the Hall of the club's 6-1 humiliation by the club's fact admitted to being 'very disaption' as his 29-month stay at awaits youl ked by Sheffield Wednesday

Shreeves is to take over as caretaker manager.

United were also partly responsi ble for the departure of Arie Haan as coach of Feyenoord. The Dutch club has had a string of disappointing results which have left it 13 points adrift of the league leaders Ajax. The setbacks included a 2-1 defeat by United in the Champions League at Old Trafford. Haan's assistant Geert Meljer has taken over team affairs on a temporary basis.

AWRENCE DALIAGLIO is to bike hit a patch of sand and over-_lead England into the pre-Christtionals against New Zealand, injuries would have no impact on Australia and South Africa. But the 25-year-old Wasps flanker will be on ered in about four weeks. Tyson probation. He has been appointed for a specific period only and is not certain to lead England into the 1999 World Cup. "Lawrence is captain for the foresecable future, but we don't know how that future is defined," said the England manager, Roger Uttley.

foul. I see no reason to apologise." Meanwhile, in Britain, the Ger-

THE world's first supersonic car, Thrust SSC, returned to Britain after its record-breaking run in the MICHAEL SCHUMACHIR adding the matter is record-treating run in the United States. The twin jet-engined car clocked up a mighty 763mph with RAF fighter pilot Andy Green in 13 league games. The last with Jacques Villeneuve at the Euro at the wheel in Nevada's Black Rock with chartes of support equipment were the German the world title. He said:

the German the world title. He said: tonnes of support equipment were "I made a mistake. But I didn't try to didn't home in a massive Antonov 124 cargo plane. The car's arrival at Stansted was greeted by team rough came to an end: "Only | man driver's nomination in the Best | leader Richard Noble.